MAR. NO. 11

My own ROMANCE

10¢

a LOVERS magazine

a BIG 52 PAGE magazine

ONE GIRL'S AMAZING CONFESSION:

"I DIDN'T CARE HOW MANY HEARTS I BROKE, LIVES I RUINED . . . SO LONG AS MY MIRROR TOLD ME THAT— I WAS WHISTLE-BAIT!"

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I WAS WHISTLE BAIT!

I COULD NO MORE HELP ATTRACTING MEN THAN A FLAME CAN HELP ATTRACTING MOTHS... I WAS WHISTLE BAIT... AND I KNEW IT--BUT I *DIDN'T* KNOW THAT SOMETIMES THE FRUITS OF VICTORY ARE DENIED TO THE VICTOR...SOMETIMES THE BREAKER OF HEARTS CAN ALSO SHED TEARS!

MY PARENTS BROUGHT ME UP TO BE WHISTLE BAIT! OF COURSE THEY HAD A NICER WORD FOR IT-- THEY WANTED ME TO BE "DESIRABLE!" TO ACHIEVE THAT DESIRABILITY, ALL MY TRAINING WAS BEGUN IN LIFE BY DENYING ME ALL THE PLEASURES OF NORMAL CHILDHOOD ACTIVITIES...

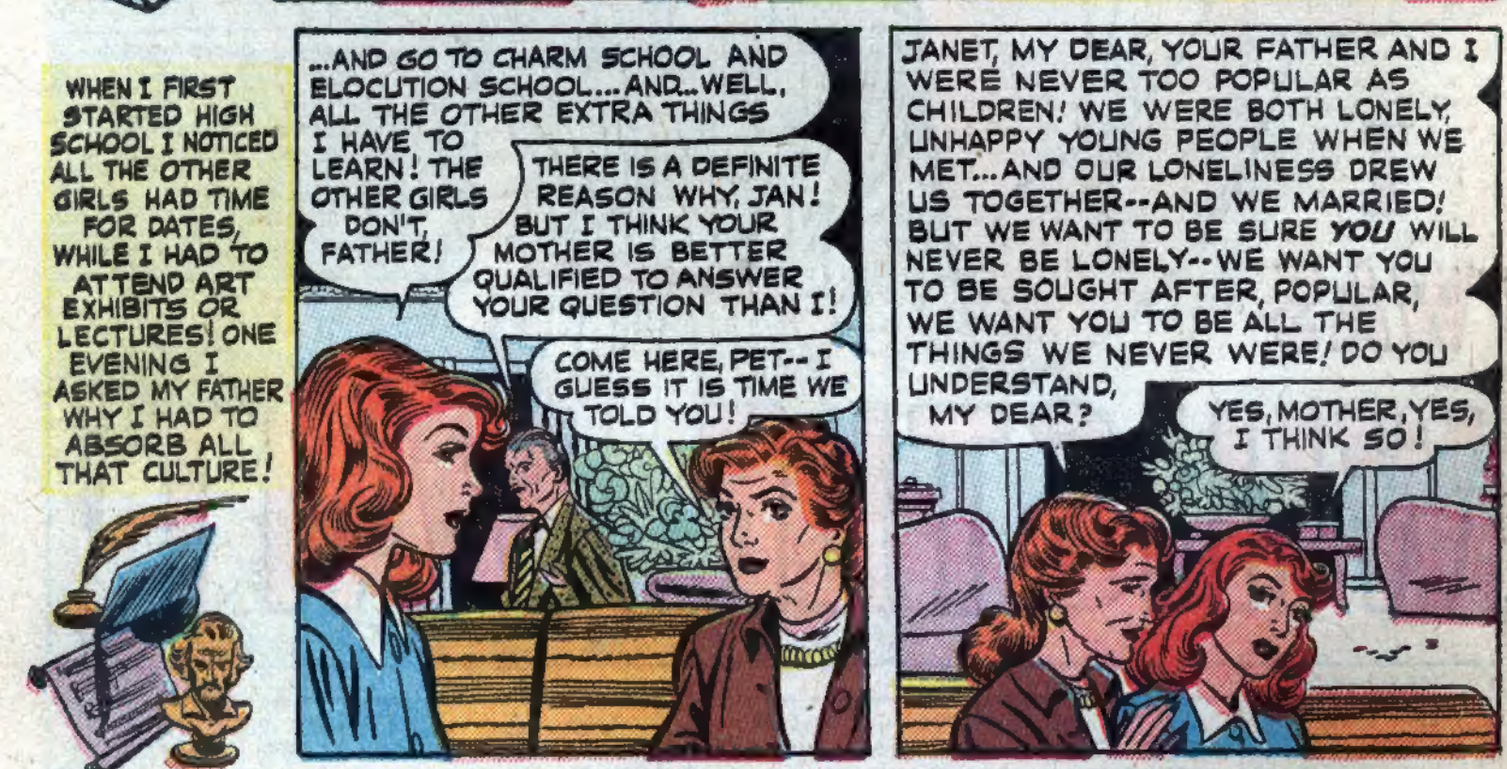
JANET DEAR, HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YOU THAT PLAYING WITH DOLLS WON'T MAKE YOU A FINE YOUNG LADY? NOW COME INSIDE AND PRACTICE YOUR PIANO LESSONS!

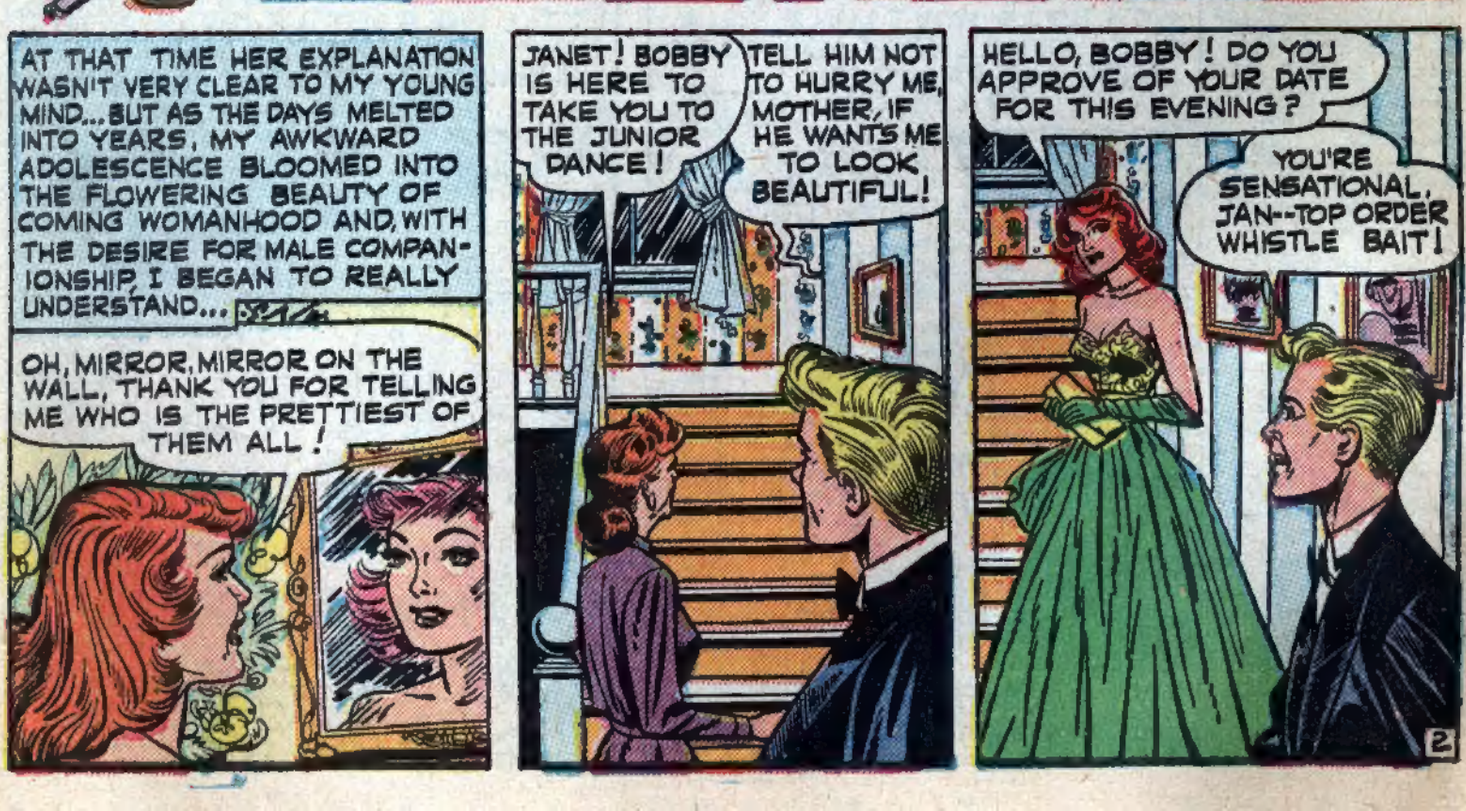
BUT, MOMMY, I LIKE PLAYING WITH DOLLS!

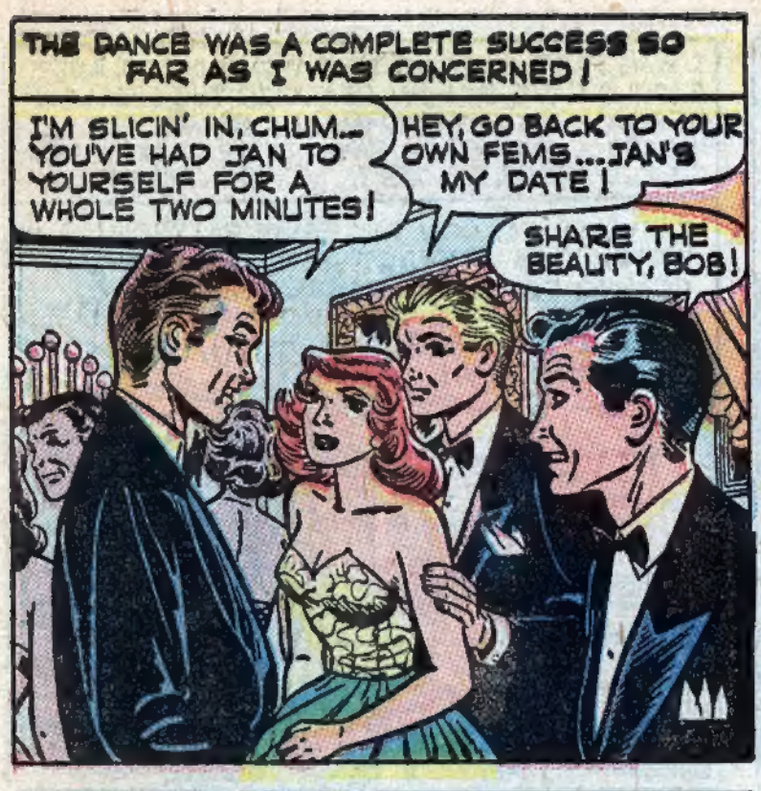
...AND ALL THE OTHER LITTLE GIRLS PLAY WITH THEM!

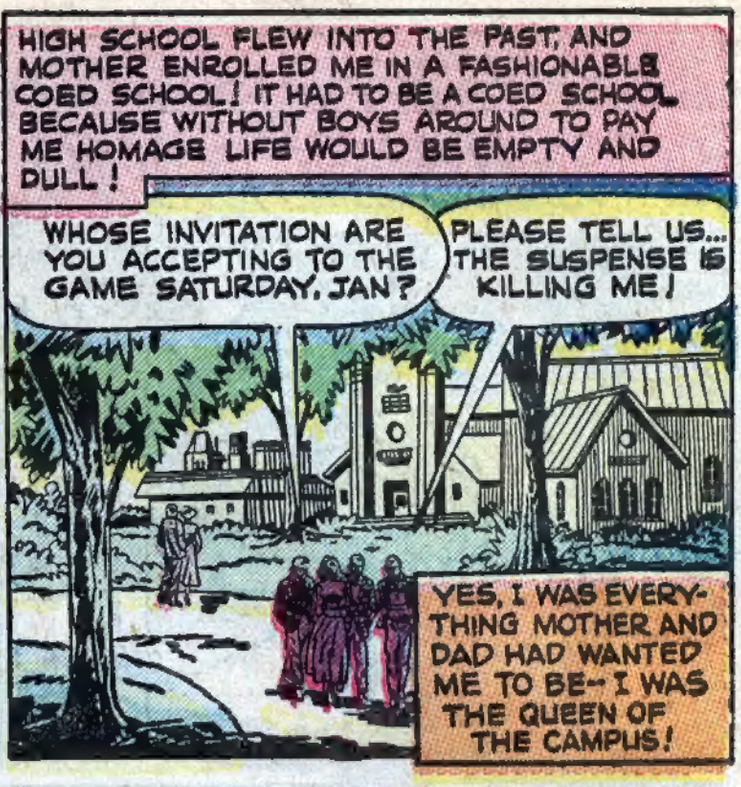
MOTHER DOESN'T WANT YOU TO BE LIKE OTHER LITTLE GIRLS, JANET! BESIDES, YOU WON'T HAVE MUCH TIME AFTER THIS FOR MUCH FOOLISHNESS ... TOMORROW YOU START YOUR SINGING LESSONS!

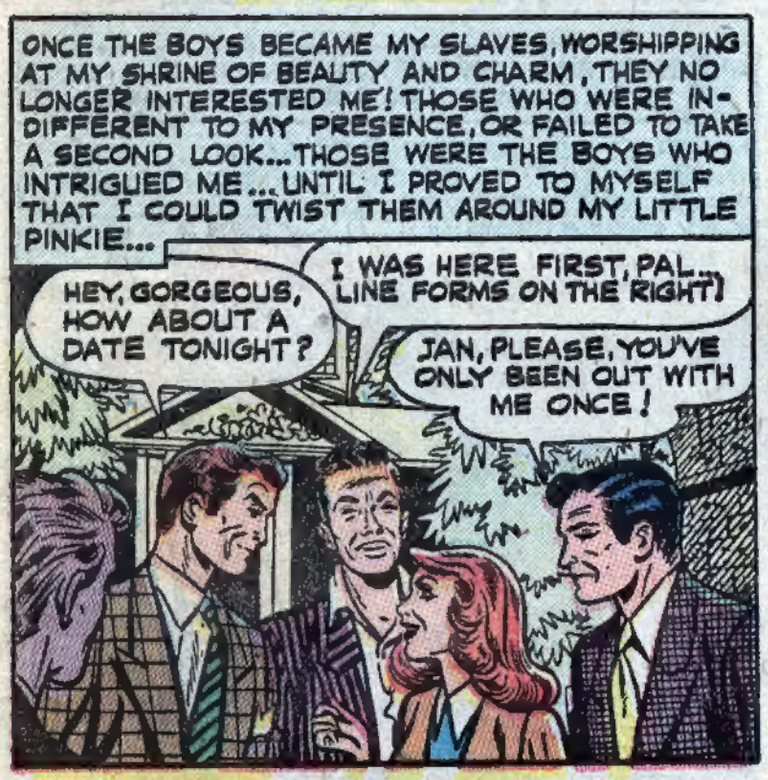
AS TIME WENT ON, AT MY PARENTS' INSISTENCE MY FIELD OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR STUDY WIDENED! DANCING SCHOOL, CHARM SCHOOL, ELOCUTION SCHOOL, MUSIC, SPEECH, POSTURE, ART... EVERYTHING TO GIVE ME POISE, ASSURANCE, CHARM...

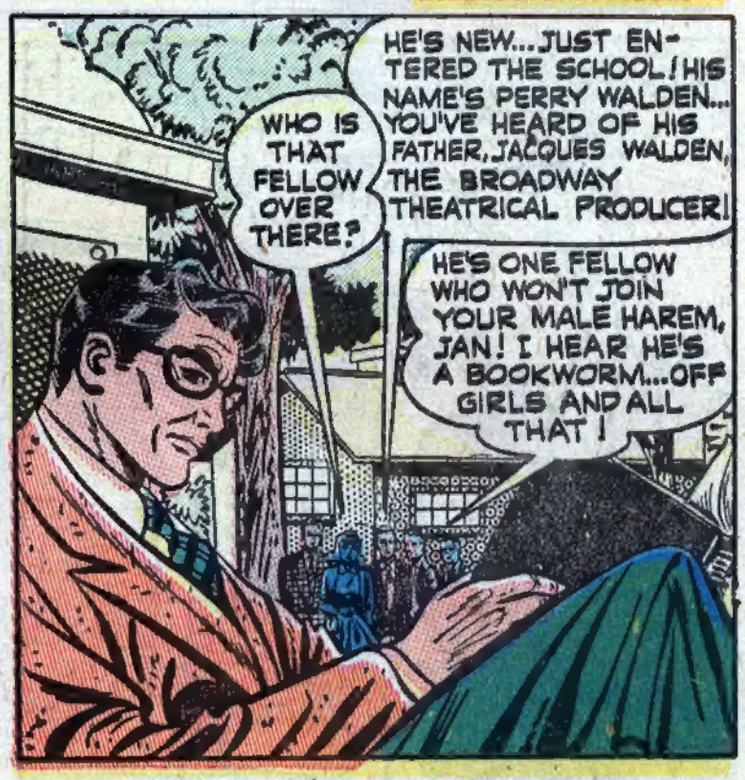

WHEN I FIRST STARTED HIGH SCHOOL I NOTICED ALL THE OTHER GIRLS HAD TIME FOR DATES, WHILE I HAD TO ATTEND ART EXHIBITS OR LECTURES! ONE EVENING I ASKED MY FATHER WHY I HAD TO ABSORB ALL THAT CULTURE!
...AND GO TO CHARM SCHOOL AND ELOCUTION SCHOOL... AND... WELL, ALL THE OTHER EXTRA THINGS I HAVE TO LEARN! THE OTHER GIRLS DON'T, FATHER!
THERE IS A DEFINITE REASON WHY, JAN! BUT I THINK YOUR MOTHER IS BETTER QUALIFIED TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION THAN I!
COME HERE, PET-- I GUESS IT IS TIME WE TOLD YOU!
JANET, MY DEAR, YOUR FATHER AND I WERE NEVER TOO POPULAR AS CHILDREN! WE WERE BOTH LONELY, UNHAPPY YOUNG PEOPLE WHEN WE MET... AND OUR LONELINESS DREW US TOGETHER--AND WE MARRIED! BUT WE WANT TO BE SURE *YOU* WILL NEVER BE LONELY--WE WANT YOU TO BE SOUGHT AFTER, POPULAR, WE WANT YOU TO BE ALL THE THINGS WE NEVER WERE! DO YOU UNDERSTAND, MY DEAR?
YES, MOTHER, YES, I THINK SO!


AT THAT TIME HER EXPLANATION WASN'T VERY CLEAR TO MY YOUNG MIND... BUT AS THE DAYS MELTED INTO YEARS, MY AWKWARD ADOLESCENCE BLOOMED INTO THE FLOWERING BEAUTY OF COMING WOMANHOOD AND, WITH THE DESIRE FOR MALE COMPANIONSHIP, I BEGAN TO REALLY UNDERSTAND...
OH, MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL, THANK YOU FOR TELLING ME WHO IS THE PRETTIEST OF THEM ALL!
JANET! BOBBY IS HERE TO TAKE YOU TO THE JUNIOR DANCE!
TELL HIM NOT TO HURRY ME, MOTHER, IF HE WANTS ME TO LOOK BEAUTIFUL!
HELLO, BOBBY! DO YOU APPROVE OF YOUR DATE FOR THIS EVENING?
YOU'RE SENSATIONAL, JAN--TOP ORDER WHISTLE BAIT!
2


THE DANCE WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS SO FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED!
I'M SLICIN' IN, CHUM... YOU'VE HAD JAN TO YOURSELF FOR A WHOLE TWO MINUTES!
HEY, GO BACK TO YOUR OWN FEMS... JAN'S MY DATE!
SHARE THE BEAUTY, BOB!

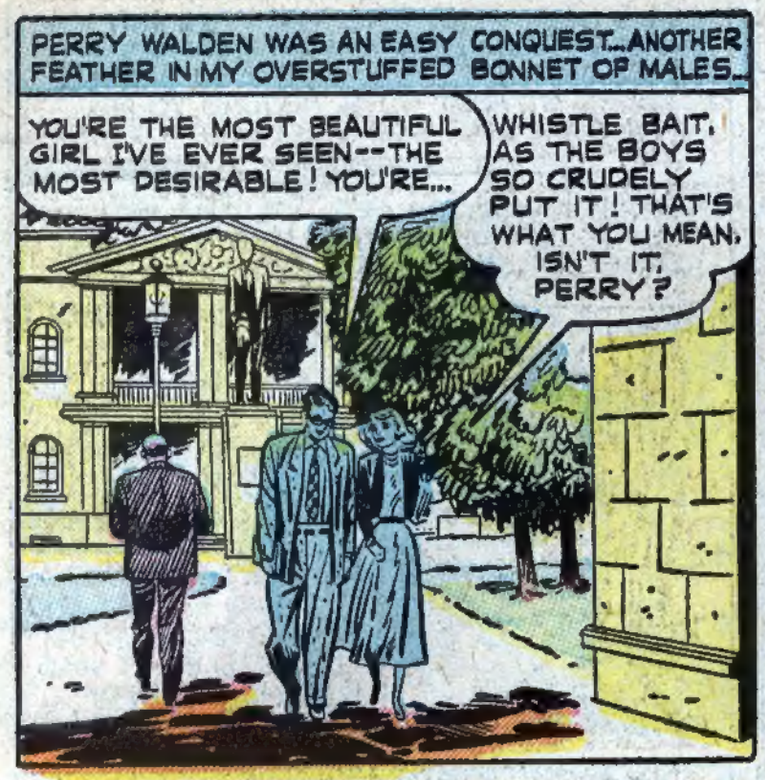

HIGH SCHOOL FLEW INTO THE PAST, AND MOTHER ENROLLED ME IN A FASHIONABLE COED SCHOOL! IT HAD TO BE A COED SCHOOL BECAUSE WITHOUT BOYS AROUND TO PAY ME HOMAGE LIFE WOULD BE EMPTY AND DULL!
WHOSE INVITATION ARE YOU ACCEPTING TO THE GAME SATURDAY, JAN?
PLEASE TELL US... THE SUSPENSE IS KILLING ME!
YES, I WAS EVERY-THING MOTHER AND DAD HAD WANTED ME TO BE-- I WAS THE QUEEN OF THE CAMPUS!

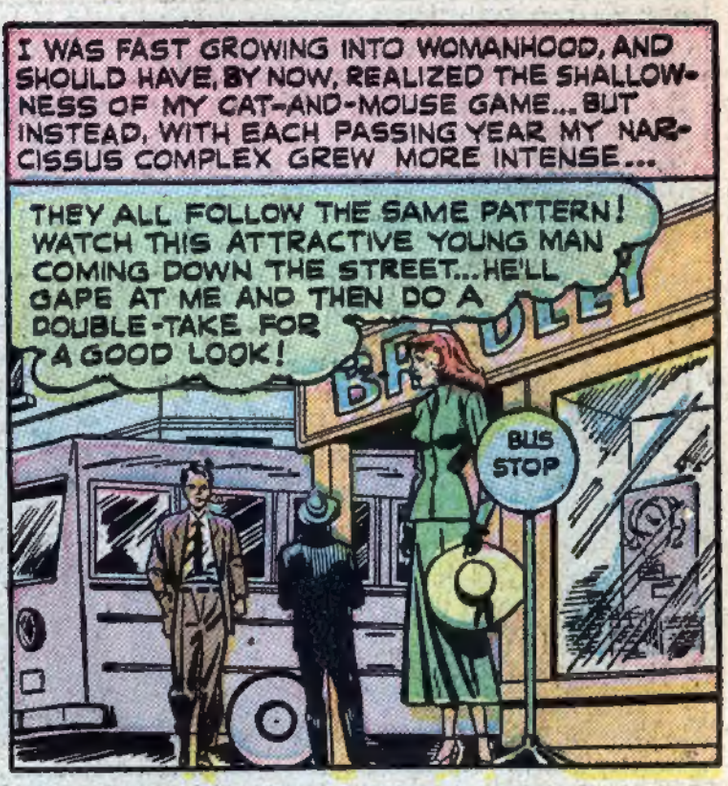

ONCE THE BOYS BECAME MY SLAVES, WORSHIPPING AT MY SHRINE OF BEAUTY AND CHARM, THEY NO LONGER INTERESTED ME! THOSE WHO WERE IN-DIFFERENT TO MY PRESENCE, OR FAILED TO TAKE A SECOND LOOK... THOSE WERE THE BOYS WHO INTRIGUED ME... UNTIL I PROVED TO MYSELF THAT I COULD TWIST THEM AROUND MY LITTLE PINKIE...
HEY, GORGEOUS, HOW ABOUT A DATE TONIGHT?
I WAS HERE FIRST, PAL... LINE FORMS ON THE RIGHT!
JAN, PLEASE, YOU'VE ONLY BEEN OUT WITH ME ONCE!

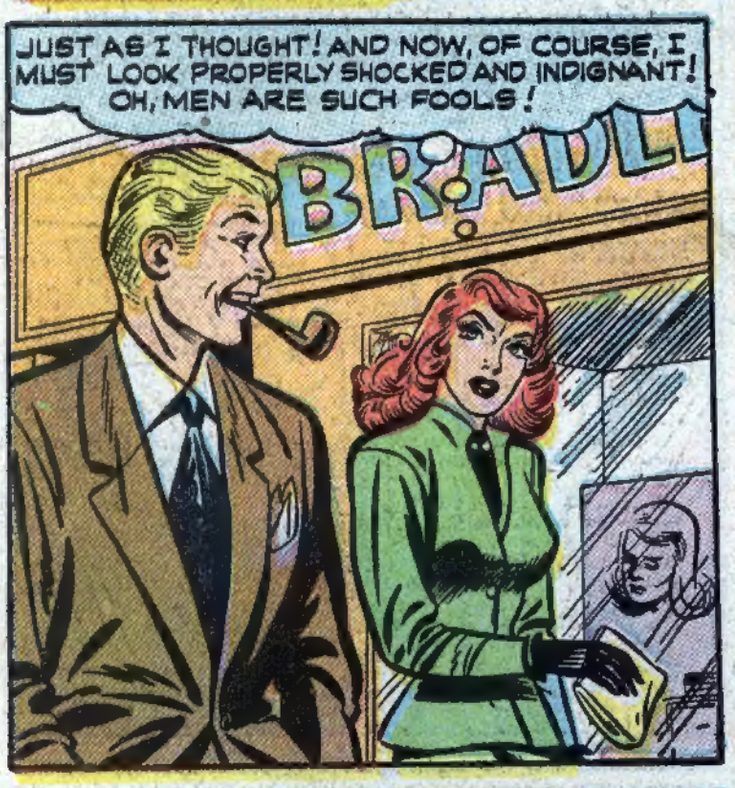

WHO IS THAT FELLOW OVER THERE?
HE'S NEW... JUST EN-TERED THE SCHOOL! HIS NAME'S PERRY WALDEN... YOU'VE HEARD OF HIS FATHER, JACQUES WALDEN, THE BROADWAY THEATRICAL PRODUCER!
HE'S ONE FELLOW WHO WON'T JOIN YOUR MALE HAREM, JAN! I HEAR HE'S A BOOKWORM... OFF GIRLS AND ALL THAT!

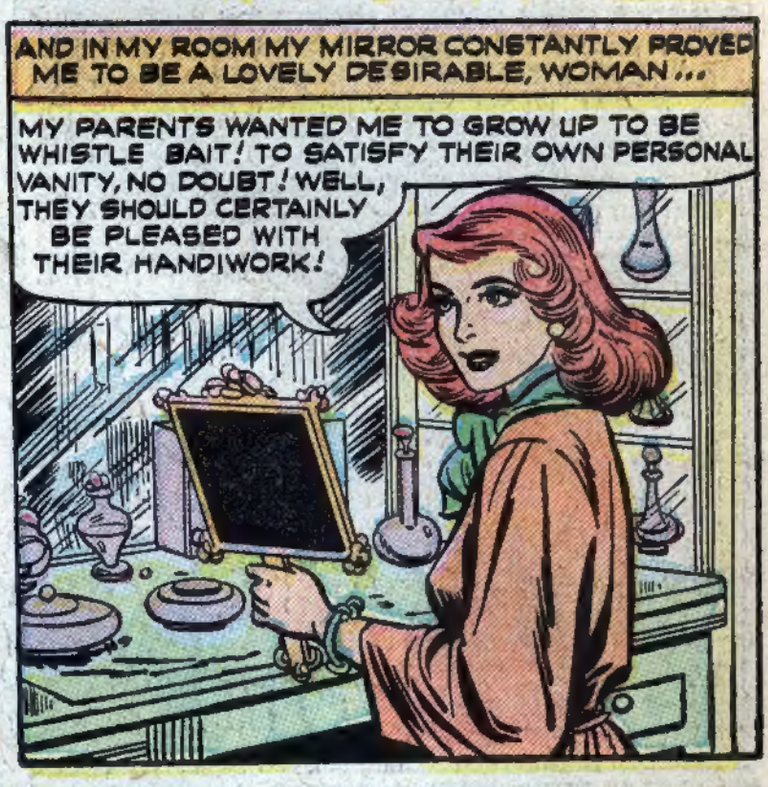
WELL, BOYS, HERE'S WHERE THE WORM TURNS!

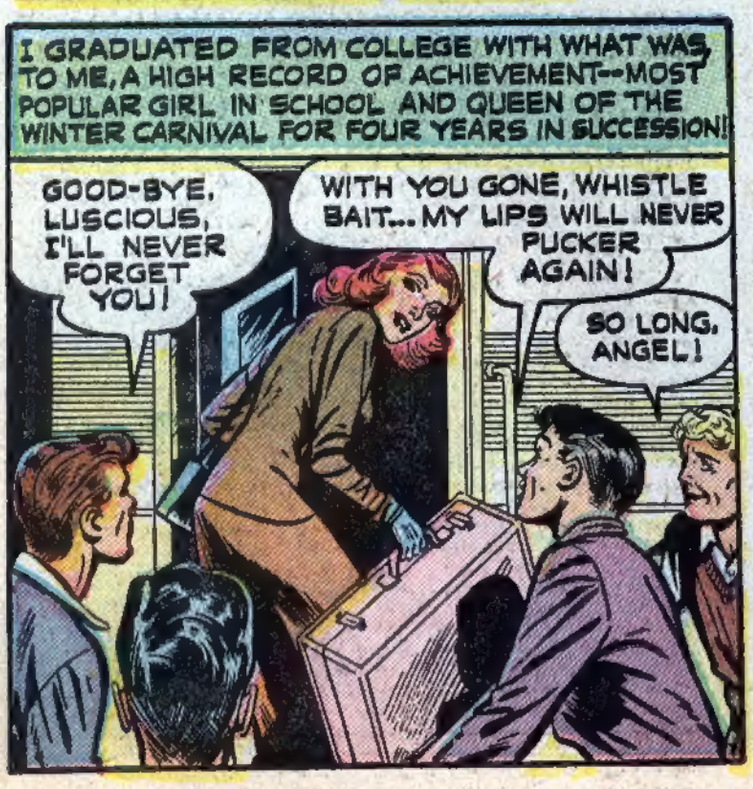
PERRY, THE BOYS HAVE NAMED ME A COMMITTEE OF ONE TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR SCHOOL AND OUR CLASS-- YOU MAY HAVE THE HONOR OF ESCORTING ME TO MY SORORITY HOUSE!
THANKS! IT'S NICE OF YOU AND THE FELLOWS... I SAW HOW POPULAR YOU WERE AND DIDN'T THINK YOU'D EVEN NOTICE A GUY LIKE ME!
3

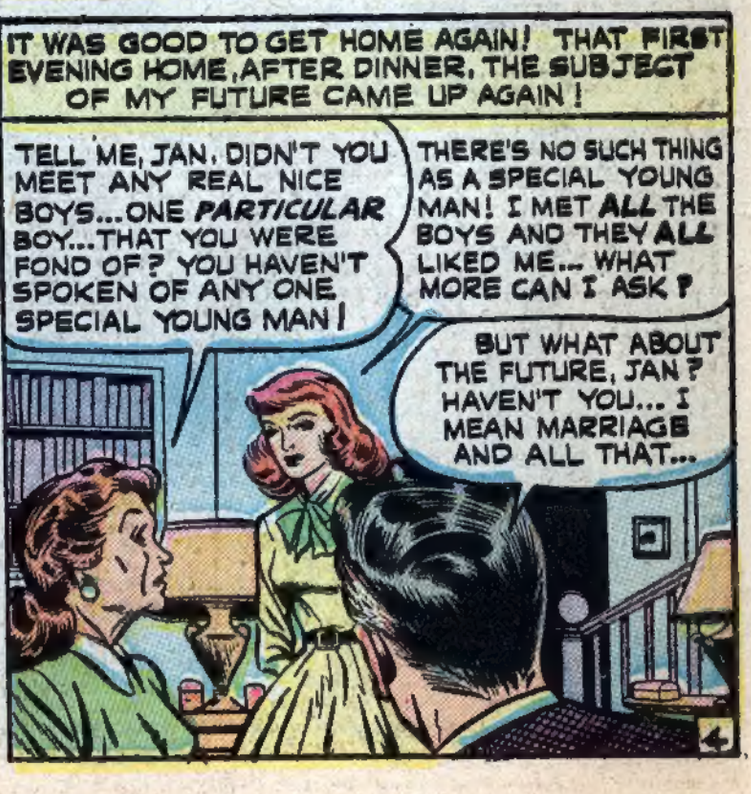

PERRY WALDEN WAS AN EASY CONQUEST...ANOTHER FEATHER IN MY OVERSTUFFED BONNET OF MALES..
YOU'RE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL I'VE EVER SEEN--THE MOST DESIRABLE! YOU'RE...
WHISTLE BAIT, AS THE BOYS SO CRUDELY PUT IT! THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN, ISN'T IT, PERRY?


I WAS FAST GROWING INTO WOMANHOOD, AND SHOULD HAVE, BY NOW, REALIZED THE SHALLOWNESS OF MY CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME... BUT INSTEAD, WITH EACH PASSING YEAR MY NARCISSUS COMPLEX GREW MORE INTENSE...
THEY ALL FOLLOW THE SAME PATTERN! WATCH THIS ATTRACTIVE YOUNG MAN COMING DOWN THE STREET...HE'LL GAPE AT ME AND THEN DO A DOUBLE-TAKE FOR A GOOD LOOK!
BUS STOP


JUST AS I THOUGHT! AND NOW, OF COURSE, I MUST LOOK PROPERLY SHOCKED AND INDIGNANT! OH, MEN ARE SUCH FOOLS!


AND IN MY ROOM MY MIRROR CONSTANTLY PROVED ME TO BE A LOVELY DESIRABLE, WOMAN...
MY PARENTS WANTED ME TO GROW UP TO BE WHISTLE BAIT! TO SATISFY THEIR OWN PERSONAL VANITY, NO DOUBT! WELL, THEY SHOULD CERTAINLY BE PLEASED WITH THEIR HANDIWORK!


I GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE WITH WHAT WAS, TO ME, A HIGH RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT--MOST POPULAR GIRL IN SCHOOL AND QUEEN OF THE WINTER CARNIVAL FOR FOUR YEARS IN SUCCESSION!
GOOD-BYE, LUSCIOUS, I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!
WITH YOU GONE, WHISTLE BAIT... MY LIPS WILL NEVER PUCKER AGAIN!
SO LONG, ANGEL!


IT WAS GOOD TO GET HOME AGAIN! THAT FIRST EVENING HOME, AFTER DINNER, THE SUBJECT OF MY FUTURE CAME UP AGAIN!
TELL ME, JAN, DIDN'T YOU MEET ANY REAL NICE BOYS...ONE PARTICULAR BOY...THAT YOU WERE FOND OF? YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN OF ANY ONE SPECIAL YOUNG MAN!
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A SPECIAL YOUNG MAN! I MET ALL THE BOYS AND THEY ALL LIKED ME... WHAT MORE CAN I ASK?
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE, JAN? HAVEN'T YOU... I MEAN MARRIAGE AND ALL THAT...

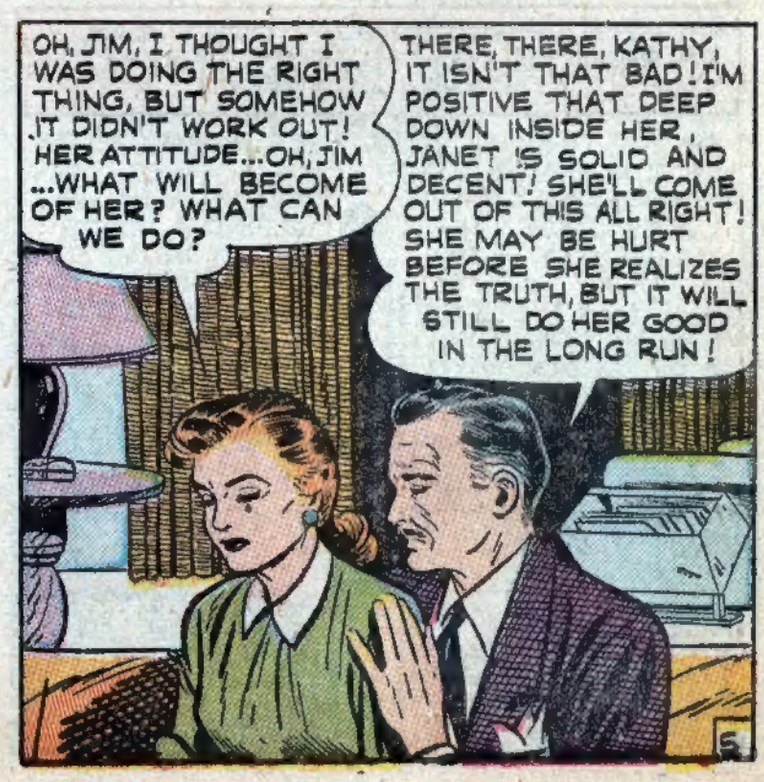
MARRIAGE? WHY, DAD, IT'S NEVER OCCURRED TO ME! ALL MEN ARE ALIKE AS FAR AS I CAN SEE... HOW CAN I PICK ONE THAT IS DIFFERENT... ONE THAT WILL APPRECIATE ME MORE THAN ANOTHER!
BUT, DARLING, DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT ALL YOUR TRAINING AND LESSONS WERE FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING YOU GREATLY ADMIRED BY MANY MEN SO THAT YOU COULD PICK AND CHOOSE... FIND THE PERFECT MATE FOR YOURSELF!

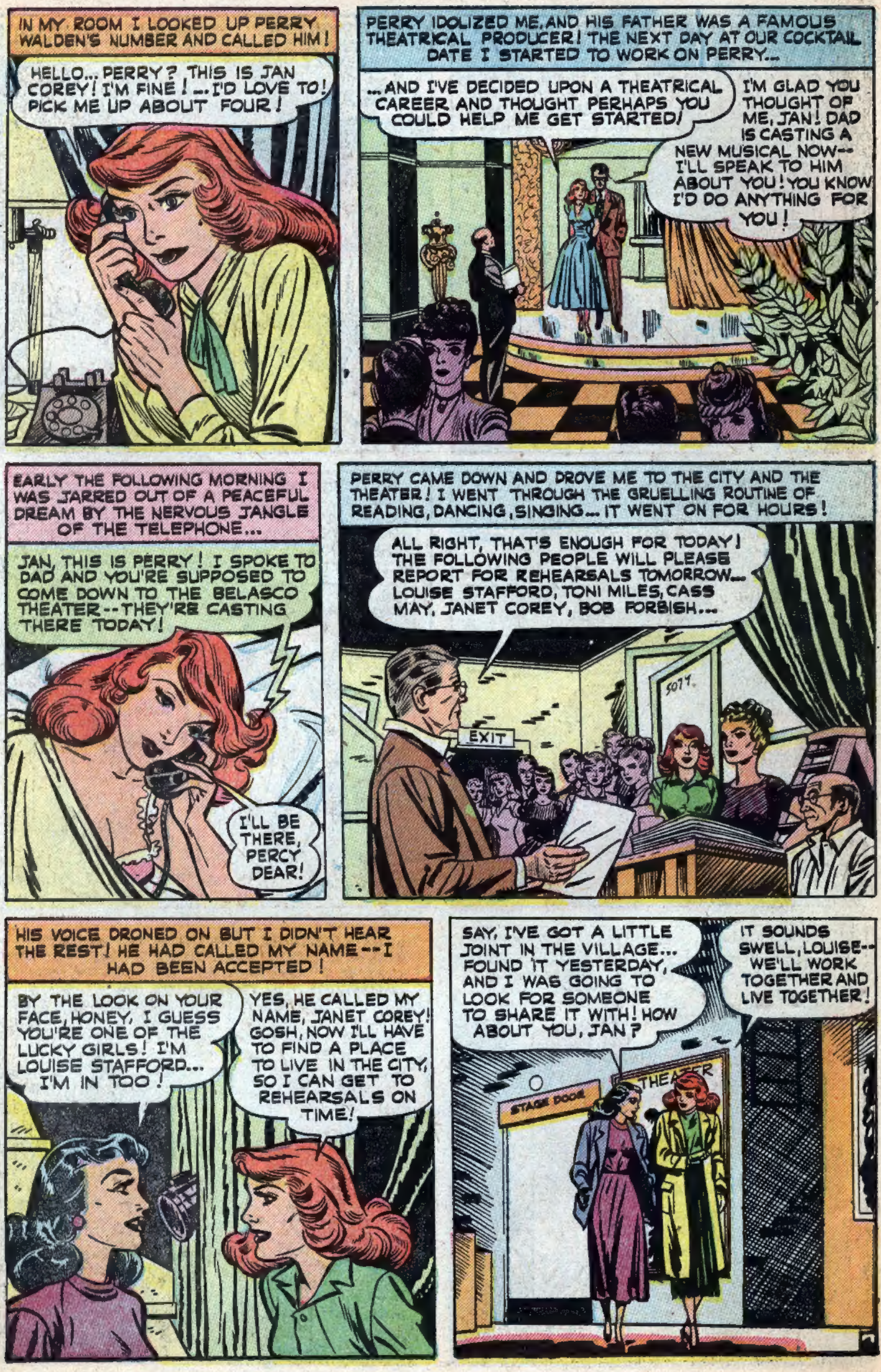
MOTHER, LOOK AT ME! WHY SHOULD I, WITH MY LOOKS, MY TALENT AND CHARM, TIE MYSELF TO ANY ONE MAN WHEN I CAN HAVE THE ADMIRATION OF EVERY MAN!
BUT, JANET, EVERY WOMAN DREAMS OF MARRIAGE...A HUSBAND, A HOME, CHILDREN...

NOT THIS WOMAN, MOTHER! YOU SAID YOURSELF THAT YOU DIDN'T WANT ME TO BE LIKE OTHER GIRLS...WELL, I'M NOT! I CAN'T HIDE MYSELF AWAY IN SOME TWO-BY-FOUR BUNGALOW--I WANT TO BE ADMIRED BY ALL MEN, NOT JUST A HUSBAND!
THEN JUST WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE TO DO, NOW THAT YOU'RE OUT OF SCHOOL, YOUNG LADY...STAND AROUND AND LOOK BEAUTIFUL?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT! I CAN SING, DANCE, I HAVE POISE, CHARM, BEAUTY... EVERYTHING NECESSARY FOR A SUCCESSFUL THEATRICAL CAREER, AND THAT'S WHERE MY FUTURE LIES... IN THE THEATER! THE SPOTLIGHT SHINING ON ME... ME, JANET COREY, THE CENTER OF ATTRACTION!
THAT'S WHAT I WANT... AND WHAT I'LL GET!

I HAVE TO MAKE A PHONE CALL, DARLINGS--THE BEGINNING OF MY CAREER!
BUT, JANET...
NOT NOW, KATHY... SHE'S OLD ENOUGH TO MAKE HER OWN DECISIONS!


OH, JIM, I THOUGHT I WAS DOING THE RIGHT THING, BUT SOMEHOW IT DIDN'T WORK OUT! HER ATTITUDE...OH, JIM ...WHAT WILL BECOME OF HER? WHAT CAN WE DO?
THERE, THERE, KATHY, IT ISN'T THAT BAD! I'M POSITIVE THAT DEEP DOWN INSIDE HER, JANET IS SOLID AND DECENT! SHE'LL COME OUT OF THIS ALL RIGHT! SHE MAY BE HURT BEFORE SHE REALIZES THE TRUTH, BUT IT WILL STILL DO HER GOOD IN THE LONG RUN!


IN MY ROOM I LOOKED UP PERRY WALDEN'S NUMBER AND CALLED HIM!
HELLO... PERRY? THIS IS JAN COREY! I'M FINE! ...I'D LOVE TO! PICK ME UP ABOUT FOUR!
PERRY IDOLIZED ME, AND HIS FATHER WAS A FAMOUS THEATRICAL PRODUCER! THE NEXT DAY AT OUR COCKTAIL DATE I STARTED TO WORK ON PERRY...
...AND I'VE DECIDED UPON A THEATRICAL CAREER AND THOUGHT PERHAPS YOU COULD HELP ME GET STARTED!
I'M GLAD YOU THOUGHT OF ME, JAN! DAD IS CASTING A NEW MUSICAL NOW-- I'LL SPEAK TO HIM ABOUT YOU! YOU KNOW I'D DO ANYTHING FOR YOU!
EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING I WAS JARRED OUT OF A PEACEFUL DREAM BY THE NERVOUS JANGLE OF THE TELEPHONE...
JAN, THIS IS PERRY! I SPOKE TO DAD AND YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO COME DOWN TO THE BELASCO THEATER--THEY'RE CASTING THERE TODAY!
I'LL BE THERE, PERCY DEAR!
PERRY CAME DOWN AND DROVE ME TO THE CITY AND THE THEATER! I WENT THROUGH THE GRUELLING ROUTINE OF READING, DANCING, SINGING... IT WENT ON FOR HOURS!
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY! THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WILL PLEASE REPORT FOR REHEARSALS TOMORROW... LOUISE STAFFORD, TONI MILES, CASS MAY, JANET COREY, BOB FORBISH...
EXIT
HIS VOICE DRONED ON BUT I DIDN'T HEAR THE REST! HE HAD CALLED MY NAME--I HAD BEEN ACCEPTED!
BY THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE, HONEY, I GUESS YOU'RE ONE OF THE LUCKY GIRLS! I'M LOUISE STAFFORD... I'M IN TOO!
YES, HE CALLED MY NAME, JANET COREY! GOSH, NOW I'LL HAVE TO FIND A PLACE TO LIVE IN THE CITY, SO I CAN GET TO REHEARSALS ON TIME!
SAY, I'VE GOT A LITTLE JOINT IN THE VILLAGE... FOUND IT YESTERDAY, AND I WAS GOING TO LOOK FOR SOMEONE TO SHARE IT WITH! HOW ABOUT YOU, JAN?
IT SOUNDS SWELL, LOUISE-- WE'LL WORK TOGETHER AND LIVE TOGETHER!
STAGE DOOR
THEATER

I HAD CRASHED INTO SHOW BUSINESS, BUT A SUDDEN FEAR POSSESSED ME...A FEAR THAT IN THIS WORLD OF THE THEATER, THIS WORLD OF NOTORIOUSLY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, MY OWN BEAUTY WOULD GO UNNOTICED! I SOON DISCOVERED HOW FOOLISH I WAS TO WORRY!

BABY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT, BUT EVERY TIME YOU MOVE THOSE JOKERS PUCKER UP TO MAKE WITH THE WOLF WHISTLE!

THAT PIECE OF ACTING IN THE SECOND SCENE, JAN...

JAN, LET'S GO OVER THAT FIRST ACT AGAIN...

NOW, FELLOWS, I WANT TO REST A FEW MINUTES!

JAN, WHY DON'T YOU REST... RELAX...BE YOURSELF? YOU'RE ALWAYS FIXING YOUR HAIR OR NAILS OR SOMETHING...ALWAYS PRIMPING! I CAN TAKE A SHOWER AND DRESS IN TEN MINUTES, BUT YOU-- IT TAKES YOU AN HOUR!

I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING! WHO'S THAT DARK, GOOD-LOOKING FELLOW WHO WAS STANDING IN THE WINGS?

OH, THAT'S DEAN MERRIT...A SMART BOY AND A SWELL EGG! HE'S A DESIGNER... DESIGNING THE SETS FOR THE SHOW! SAY, THAT'S A NICE LITTLE PART THEY HANDED YOU...AND YOU'LL DO ALL RIGHT BY IT!

IT'S A SMALL PART BUT IT'S A START TOWARD... WHO KNOWS...PERHAPS HOLLYWOOD, THE SCREEN, AND MILLIONS OF PEOPLE SEEING MY IMAGE AND REMEMBERING ME! NOW ABOUT THIS DEAN MERRIT ...INTRODUCE ME, WILL YOU?

LOU LOST NO TIME--SHE TOOK ME OUT TO THE WINGS AND INTRODUCED ME TO THE YOUNG MAN ALMOST BEFORE THE WORDS WERE OUT OF MY MOUTH!

NOW THAT YOU TWO HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED, YOU WON'T NEED A CHAPERONE!

I'M AFRAID I DIDN'T NOTICE IT... THIS SECOND-ACT SET PRESENTS A PROBLEM! YOU SEE, A SET MUST BE ATTUNED TO THE ACTIVITY PRESENTED ON THE STAGE!

DO YOU LIKE THAT FIFTH AVENUE ROUTINE I DID?

REST PERIOD WAS OVER THEN, AND WE WENT BACK TO OUR ROUTINE! DEAN INTRIGUED ME! HE WAS ALWAYS AT REHEARSALS BUT WAS THE ONLY MALE MEMBER OF THE TROUPE WHO HADN'T MADE A PLAY FOR ME... HAD IGNORED ME!

HE ISN'T PAYING THE LEAST ATTENTION TO ME! ALL RIGHT, MISTER MERRIT, I'LL GUARANTEE I'LL HAVE YOU EATING OUT OF MY HAND LIKE ALL THE REST!

I TOOK EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO DEAN TO BRING MYSELF TO HIS ATTENTION!
THAT'S THE PENTHOUSE SET, ISN'T IT, DEAN? IT'S VERY EFFECTIVE!
YES, I THINK IT'S GOING TO WORK OUT OKAY! SAY, I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT!
WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG, DEAN? YOU DIDN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF A BREAK FOR LUNCH THAN WE DID!
COME ON, JAN, I'M STARVED!
THAT'S AN IDEA! I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU... I JUST WANT TO SHOW THIS SKETCH TO JACQUES!
WE WAITED OUTSIDE, BREATHING IN THE FRESH AIR! THE MINUTES TICKED AWAY AND STILL DEAN DIDN'T APPEAR...
WE MIGHT AS WELL NOT WAIT FOR DEAN ANY LONGER! IF I KNOW THAT GUY, HE'S BECOME SO WRAPPED UP IN SHOP TALK ABOUT THAT SET THAT HE'S FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT US!
FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME? ARE YOU TRYING TO BE FUNNY, LOU?
LOOK, HONEY, THAT GUY'S DIFFERENT FROM THESE OTHER SCHNOOKS WHO ROLL OVER AND PLAY DEAD WHEN YOU WAG A FINGER! DEAN'S A REAL PERSON, AN HONEST, DOWN-TO-EARTH GUY WITH ABILITY AND BRAINS... AND DEEPLY INTERESTED IN HIS PROFESSION!
HE'S A MAN, LOU, AND ALL MEN ARE ALIKE-- HE'LL COME CRAWLING TO ME YET!
SET #7
HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY, KID, BUT YOU'RE JUST WASTING YOUR TIME IF YOU THINK YOU CAN LEAD HIM BY THE NOSE!
I LAY IN BED THAT NIGHT THINKING OF DEAN! I COULDN'T FIGURE IT OUT-- WHY WAS HE SO DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS? I FINALLY DECIDED THAT I DIDN'T LIKE HIM BUT I'D MAKE HIM FALL FOR ME JUST THE SAME! THE STRANGE THING WAS THAT I DREAMED OF HIM, AND IN MY DREAM HE WAS KISSING ME... AND I LIKED IT!
8

REHEARSALS SEEMED TO GO ON INDEFINITELY, AND AT EACH OPPORTUNITY I TRIED TO MAKE MYSELF NOTICED BY DEAN... USED ALL MY WILES... FLAUNTED MY BEAUTY IN FRONT OF HIM...

HOW DO YOU LIKE MY NEW HAIRDO, DEAN? IT DOES SOMETHING FOR ME, DON'T YOU THINK?

I'M READY, DEAN DARLING! I'M SO HUNGRY, I COULD EAT A HORSE-- JOCKEY AND ALL!

LET'S GO, LOU... SEE YOU LATER, JAN!

SET 8

I WAS FURIOUS AT FIRST! DEAN AND LOU! HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN? HOW COULD HE WANT LOU INSTEAD OF *ME*?

EXIT

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED DEAN AND LOU WERE CONSTANTLY TOGETHER, AND GRADUALLY MY ANGER LEFT ME! I COULDN'T STAY MAD AT LOU... OR DEAN! THEY WERE BOTH SWELL PEOPLE! I'D FORGET HIM... HE'D BE THE ONE MAN WHOM I COULDN'T ADD TO MY LIST OF CONQUESTS!

IT'S EASY TO SAY "FORGET HIM", BUT I CAN'T! I THOUGHT I ONLY WANTED TO MAKE HIM DESIRE ME... FROM A DISTANCE, LIKE ALL THE REST! BUT I WANT TO BE CLOSE TO HIM... IN HIS ARMS... I'M IN LOVE WITH THE GUY! NOW I REALIZE IT... WHEN IT'S TOO LATE!

THE HONEST REVELATION OF MY LOVE FOR DEAN BROUGHT, IN ITS WAKE, A SUDDEN CHANGE IN MY OUTLOOK ON LIFE! NO LONGER DID I THRILL TO THE WHISTLES AND ADMIRING GLANCES OF OTHER MEN... SINCE THE ONE MAN I WANTED WAS LOST TO ME, THE EFFECT MY BEAUTY HAD ON OTHER MEN NO LONGER MATTERED! THE DESIRE THAT HAD DRIVEN ME ALL THESE YEARS --THE DESIRE TO BE WANTED BY ALL MEN--NOW SEEMED PETTY AND SMALL!

THIS NEW ROLE YOU'VE WRITTEN IN, BYRON... THIS SCRUBWOMAN ROLE... IT'S A GOOD BIT BUT WE'LL HAVE TO CAST SOMEONE FOR IT!

IT'S NOT A GLAMOR ROLE OF COURSE! SAY, HOW ABOUT THAT LOU GIRL?

I OVERHEARD WHAT YOU WERE DISCUSSING, MR. HAHNEL! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE LOU MY ROLE, AND I'LL DO THE SCRUBWOMAN ROLE! I'M POSITIVE LOU COULD DO A WONDERFUL JOB IN MY PART! SHE CAN DANCE AND SING... AND SHE'S LOVELY TO LOOK AT! HOW ABOUT IT?

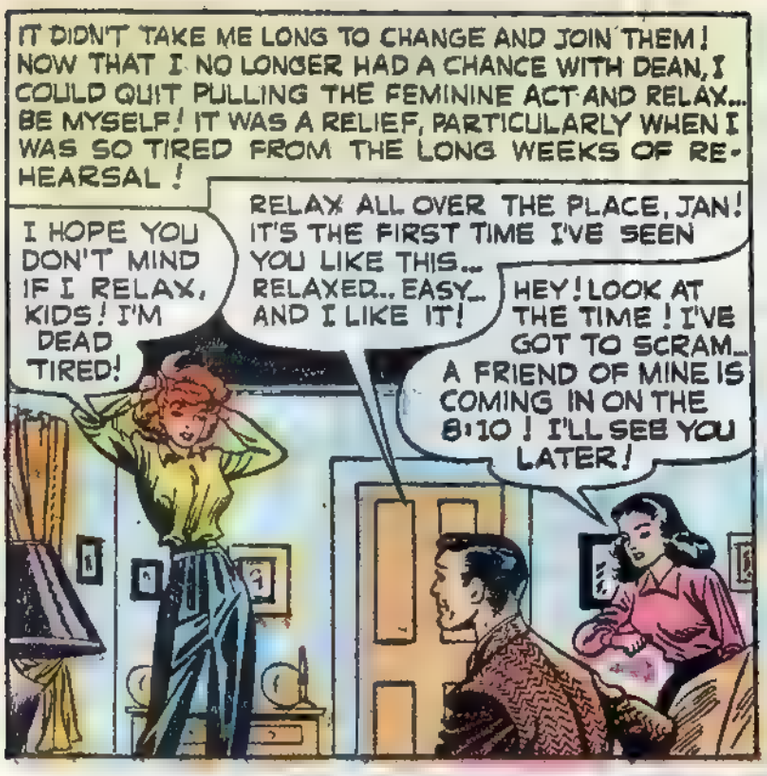
HMMM... WELL, ALL RIGHT... IF YOU'RE WILLING TO GIVE UP YOUR ROLE, I DON'T SEE WHY LOU SHOULDN'T GET THE BREAK! THIS IS A CHARACTER ROLE, YOU KNOW-- AN UGLY, DIRTY OLD WOMAN! YOU WON'T ATTRACT MANY WHISTLES IN THAT MAKE-UP!

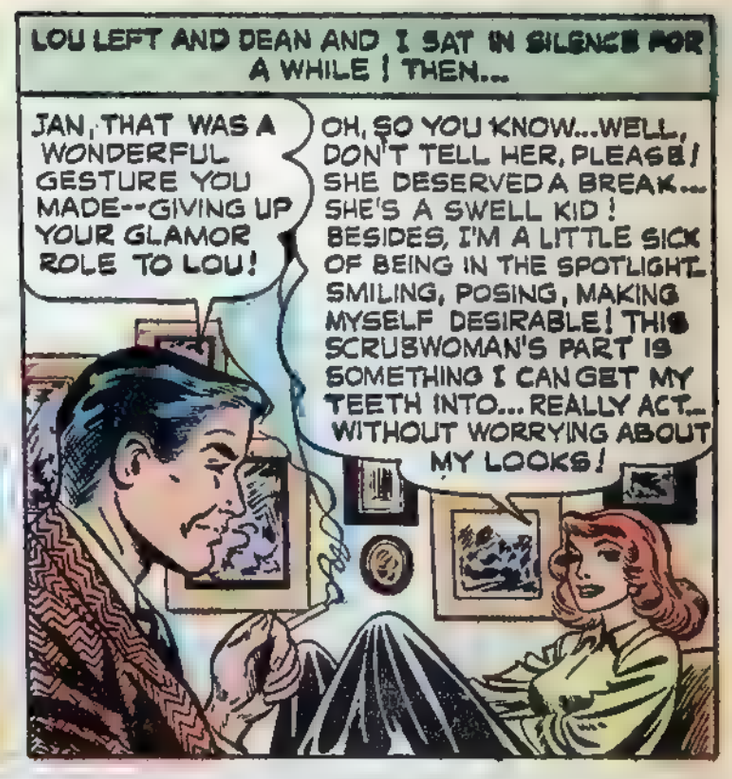
BUT I DIDN'T CARE! I WAS SICK OF WOLF WHISTLES AND I WANTED LOU TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY I WAS GIVING UP! I THREW MYSELF INTO MY NEW ROLE! THEN, THE NIGHT BEFORE WE WERE TO LEAVE FOR THE OUT-OF-TOWN OPENING...

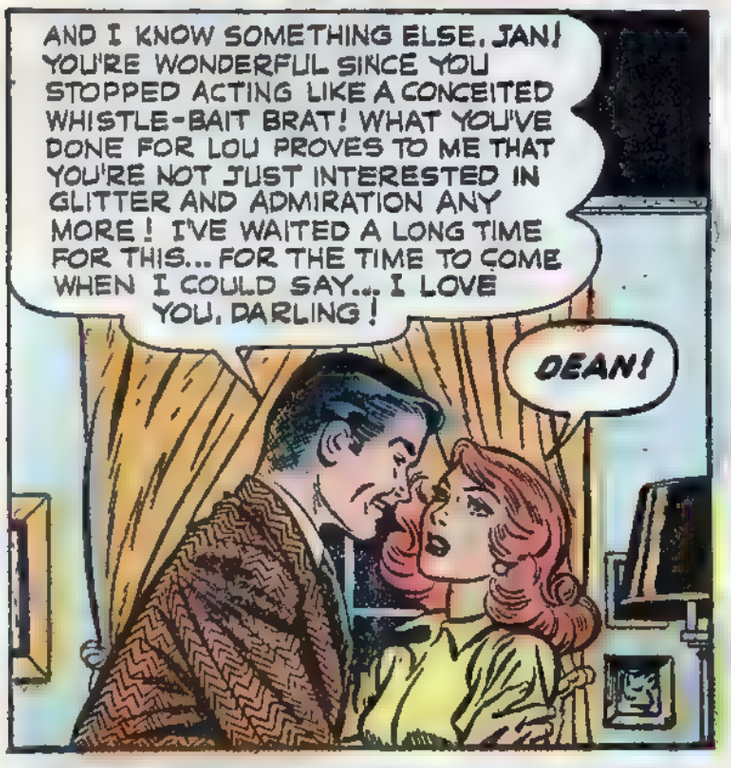
HI, KIDS! YOU DECENT?

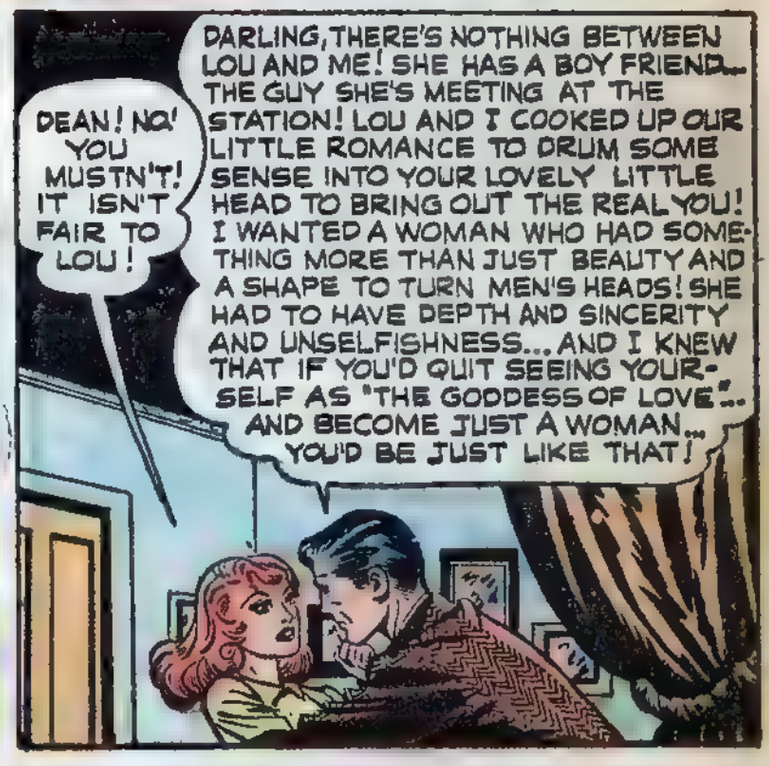
SURE, DEAN! COME ON IN AND MAKE LIKE HOME!

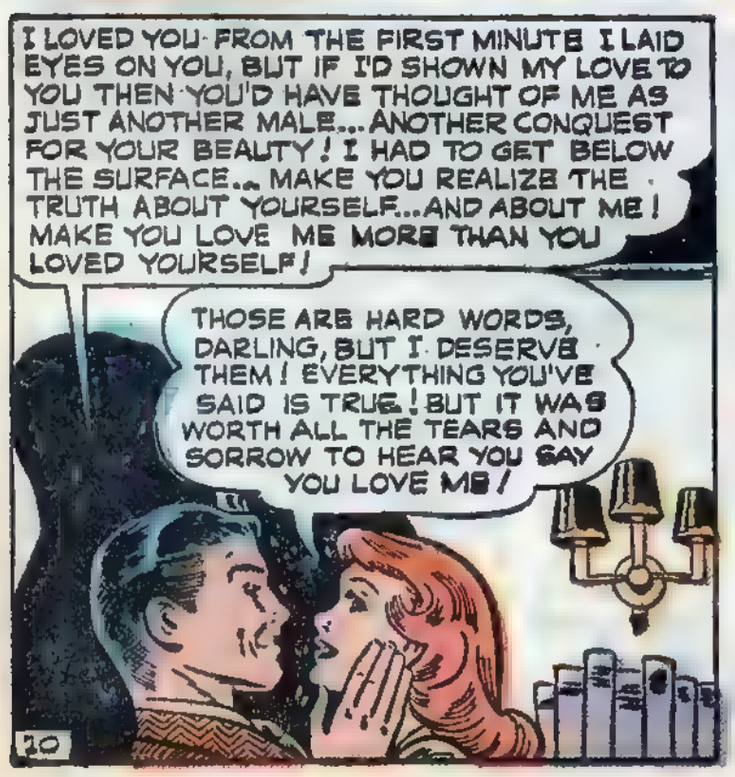
I'LL GET OUT OF THIS COSTUME AND BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE!

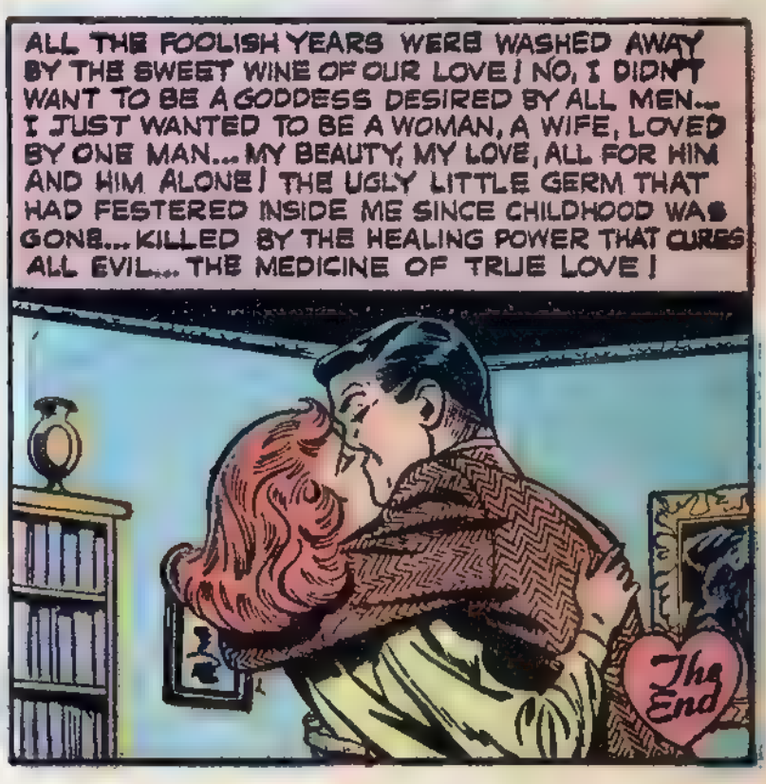

IT DIDN'T TAKE ME LONG TO CHANGE AND JOIN THEM! NOW THAT I NO LONGER HAD A CHANCE WITH DEAN, I COULD QUIT PULLING THE FEMININE ACT AND RELAX... BE MYSELF! IT WAS A RELIEF, PARTICULARLY WHEN I WAS SO TIRED FROM THE LONG WEEKS OF REHEARSAL!
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND IF I RELAX, KIDS! I'M DEAD TIRED!
RELAX ALL OVER THE PLACE, JAN! IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU LIKE THIS... RELAXED.. EASY... AND I LIKE IT!
HEY! LOOK AT THE TIME! I'VE GOT TO SCRAM... A FRIEND OF MINE IS COMING IN ON THE 8:10! I'LL SEE YOU LATER!


LOU LEFT AND DEAN AND I SAT IN SILENCE FOR A WHILE! THEN...
JAN, THAT WAS A WONDERFUL GESTURE YOU MADE--GIVING UP YOUR GLAMOR ROLE TO LOU!
OH, SO YOU KNOW...WELL, DON'T TELL HER, PLEASE! SHE DESERVED A BREAK... SHE'S A SWELL KID! BESIDES, I'M A LITTLE SICK OF BEING IN THE SPOTLIGHT... SMILING, POSING, MAKING MYSELF DESIRABLE! THIS SCRUBWOMAN'S PART IS SOMETHING I CAN GET MY TEETH INTO... REALLY ACT... WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT MY LOOKS!


AND I KNOW SOMETHING ELSE, JAN! YOU'RE WONDERFUL SINCE YOU STOPPED ACTING LIKE A CONCEITED WHISTLE-BAIT BRAT! WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR LOU PROVES TO ME THAT YOU'RE NOT JUST INTERESTED IN GLITTER AND ADMIRATION ANY MORE! I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THIS... FOR THE TIME TO COME WHEN I COULD SAY... I LOVE YOU, DARLING!
DEAN!


DEAN! NO! YOU MUSTN'T! IT ISN'T FAIR TO LOU!
DARLING, THERE'S NOTHING BETWEEN LOU AND ME! SHE HAS A BOY FRIEND... THE GUY SHE'S MEETING AT THE STATION! LOU AND I COOKED UP OUR LITTLE ROMANCE TO DRUM SOME SENSE INTO YOUR LOVELY LITTLE HEAD TO BRING OUT THE REAL YOU! I WANTED A WOMAN WHO HAD SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST BEAUTY AND A SHAPE TO TURN MEN'S HEADS! SHE HAD TO HAVE DEPTH AND SINCERITY AND UNSELFISHNESS... AND I KNEW THAT IF YOU'D QUIT SEEING YOURSELF AS "THE GODDESS OF LOVE"... AND BECOME JUST A WOMAN... YOU'D BE JUST LIKE THAT!


I LOVED YOU FROM THE FIRST MINUTE I LAID EYES ON YOU, BUT IF I'D SHOWN MY LOVE TO YOU THEN YOU'D HAVE THOUGHT OF ME AS JUST ANOTHER MALE... ANOTHER CONQUEST FOR YOUR BEAUTY! I HAD TO GET BELOW THE SURFACE... MAKE YOU REALIZE THE TRUTH ABOUT YOURSELF... AND ABOUT ME! MAKE YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN YOU LOVED YOURSELF!
THOSE ARE HARD WORDS, DARLING, BUT I DESERVE THEM! EVERYTHING YOU'VE SAID IS TRUE! BUT IT WAS WORTH ALL THE TEARS AND SORROW TO HEAR YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME!


ALL THE FOOLISH YEARS WERE WASHED AWAY BY THE SWEET WINE OF OUR LOVE! NO, I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A GODDESS DESIRED BY ALL MEN... I JUST WANTED TO BE A WOMAN, A WIFE, LOVED BY ONE MAN... MY BEAUTY, MY LOVE, ALL FOR HIM AND HIM ALONE! THE UGLY LITTLE GERM THAT HAD FESTERED INSIDE ME SINCE CHILDHOOD WAS GONE... KILLED BY THE HEALING POWER THAT CURES ALL EVIL... THE MEDICINE OF TRUE LOVE!
The End

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Straight from the heart

WHILE HE HOLDS YOU IN HIS ARMS WITH HIS LIPS PRESSING FIRMLY AGAINST YOURS--PERHAPS YOU THINK THAT YOU'RE REALLY IN LOVE! BUT ARE YOU *SURE* THAT THE WONDERFUL FEELING CAN LAST? LET OUR EDITORS HELP YOU FIND THE RIGHT ANSWER AND DISCOVER THE PATH STRAIGHT TO YOUR HEART!

Keeping Pop from Popping!

Dear Editors,

My father keeps sitting around the living room all evening, whenever I have a boy in to call on me. Not only that, but he usually wears his old work-clothes, and sometimes I'm really ashamed of how he looks and talks. Pop means well, but he doesn't realize that his old jokes aren't funny to us. Besides, we'd like some time to ourselves—to chat about school and dates and things. There's nothing wrong with that, is there?

M. B. R.
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear M. B. R.,

It will take careful maneuvering to make your father understand, without hurting his feelings, that too much attention from him is unwelcome—also that his apparel is not always appropriate to the presence of a guest. How about giving him an attractive sport shirt for his birthday or Christmas, and laughingly calling it his "date" shirt? Or perhaps you could, on nights when you expect a caller, bring him a pocket book edition of a good detective story, or whatever type of reading he likes. Maybe even a game he could play alone would do the trick. Try not to be rude to him—apparently he does mean well, and relishes having listeners!

Can't See Forest for Trees!

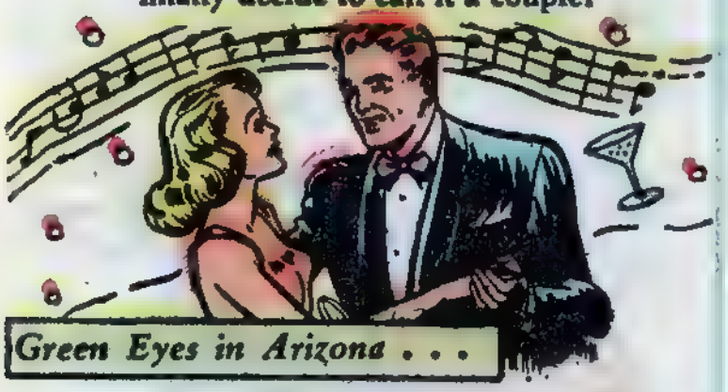
Dear Editors,

Don and I went through high school together, right here in Baton Rouge, and always had lots of fun. I thought it would keep right on that way, but now he's out of school, and training for a career in forestry. Don spends five nights a week at school, besides working on a nearby re-forestation project daytimes. Just seeing him weekends isn't nearly enough for me, and later, I'm afraid, he may have to go out of the state to graduate school. What will I do then?

P. L. R.
Baton Rouge, La.

Dear P. L. R.,

You're a busy little bridge-crosser, aren't you? Why not try growing up for a change? The fact that Don still dates you shows that he's serious about you, and is concentrating on his future only to be able to offer you something solid when he pops the question. Why not study something yourself a few evenings a week—even if it's only cooking, or furniture arrangement? Then you, too, will have a contribution of skill and knowledge to add to the assets when you both finally decide to call it a couple!



Green Eyes in Arizona . . .

Dear Editors,

Alec, a handsome redhead, has been my steady boy friend for a year now, and I just can't seem to get over being jealous every time he dances with or even talks to another girl. I know jealousy is called "the green-eyed monster", and that surely can't be a good thing for a girl to act like. But tell me this—just where does genuine interest stop and jealousy begin?

E. L. T.
Snowflake, Ariz.

Dear E. L. T.,

The town you live in sounds so cool and calm—try to get a little of that atmosphere into your own feelings, won't you? If you are perfectly certain that Alec cares as much for you as you do for him — — then relax, and let things take their natural course. We're glad you caught the danger signal yourself, and know that you are exaggerating his small, polite attentions to other girls into magnified crimes, requiring a jealous reaction from you!

Easy On the Double Malt . . .

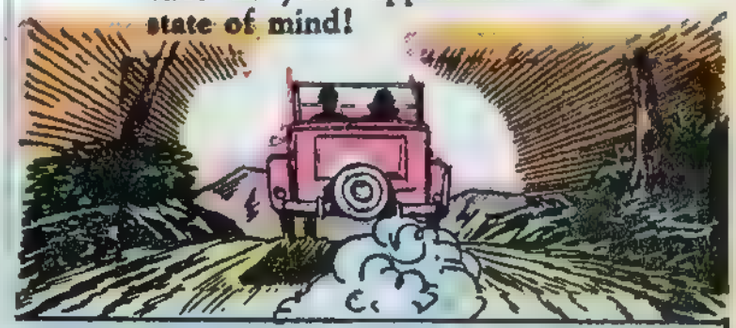
Dear Editors,

I am quite unpopular with the kids in our crowd, both boys and girls. Nobody seems to like me. Do you suppose it can be because of my weight, which is about fifteen pounds more than the chart says it should be? In fact, I weigh as much as any of the boys in the crowd, though I am not bad-looking. Please tell me if you think that's the reason for my unpopularity.

A. B. L.
Jamestown, N. Y.

Dear A. B. L.,

You're probably as nice as anybody, once a person gets to know you. We certainly do agree that overweight can make a whole lot of difference in a girl's popularity. I'm willing to bet the first place you head for after school is the soda fountain, and it's a safe guess you're no stranger to double chocolate sundaes there, or to "seconds" on mashed potatoes and apple pie at home. Why not make yours a sour lemonade, or a plain milk shake? And get hold of a good, sensible diet list that will tell you how much of *what* it's safe and sane for you to eat. Stick to it—weigh yourself once a week—and you'll be amazed at the difference in your appearance and state of mind!



SORRY WE CANNOT ANSWER ALL YOUR LETTERS PERSONALLY...ONLY THOSE SELECTED TO APPEAR IN THIS COLUMN. ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS TO

MY OWN ROMANCE

SUITE 1404
350 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

SOMETIMES A GIRL TAKES A WRONG STEP... AS I, *LORETTA PAGE*, HAD DONE! AND AS THAT GIRL LIVES IN MISERY BECAUSE OF WHAT SHE HAS DONE, SHE DREAMS, AS I DREAMT, OF THE MAN SHE *SHOULD* HAVE CLUNG TO...OF THE LIFE SHE *SHOULD* HAVE LED! AND FROM THESE DREAMS COMES A PRAYER...A PRAYER FOR A SECOND CHANCE! A PRAYER FOR A

SECOND MEETING!

MY OWN ROMANCE FEATURE CONFESSION

METRO PLAZA

7054

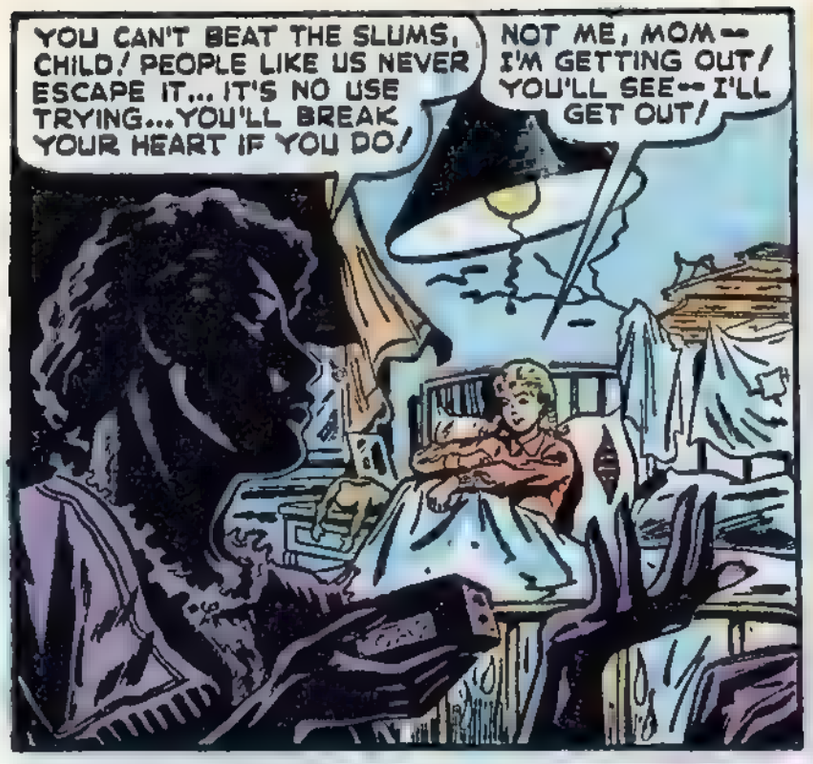
THE STARS IN THE SKY THAT LOOK DOWN ON THE BEAUTIFUL PARTS OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE ALSO SHINE ON THE UGLY! THIS WAS MY HOME, MY BIRTHPLACE...THE SLUMS OF DULUTH, WHERE MY PARENTS HAD BEEN CHAINED DOWN FOR YEARS... AND WHICH I HATED WITH A DEEP, INTENSE LOATHING THAT I CANNOT PUT INTO WORDS...

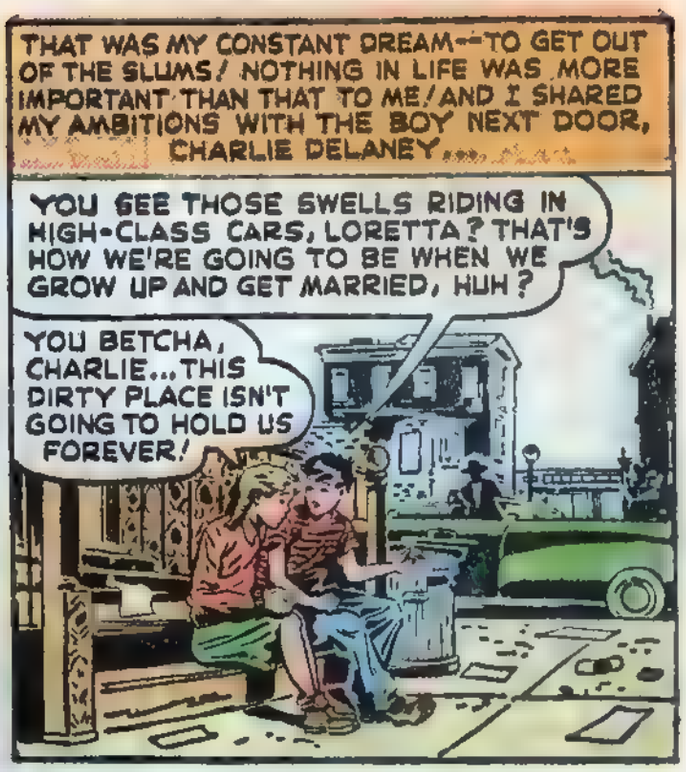
DULUTH

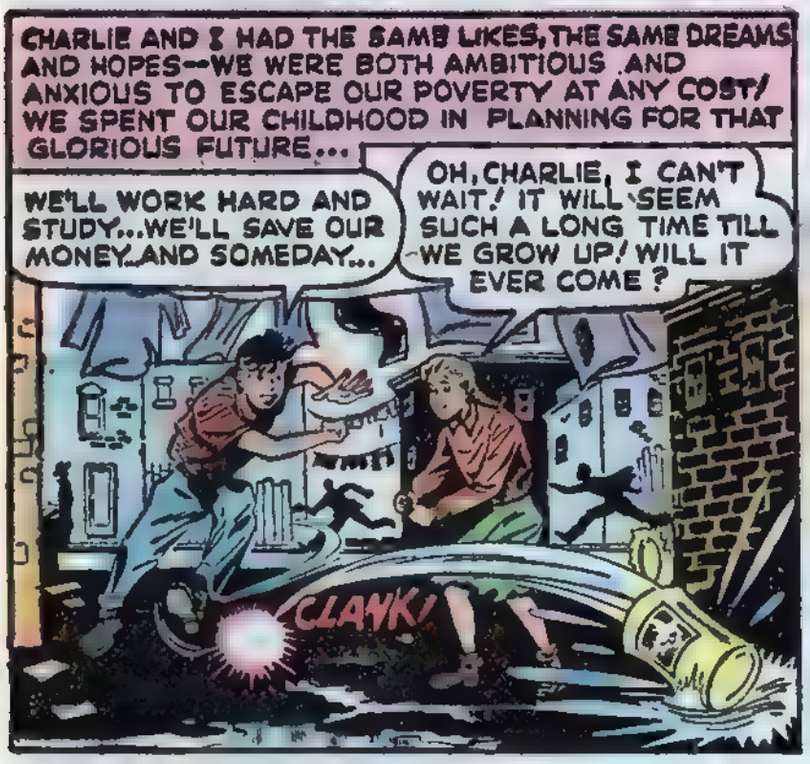
YES, I HATED IT...EVER SINCE I HAD BEEN OLD ENOUGH TO THINK AND TO COMPARE... I, LORETTA PAGE, DAUGHTER OF DIRT AND POVERTY, HAD DREAMED OF A BETTER LIFE...

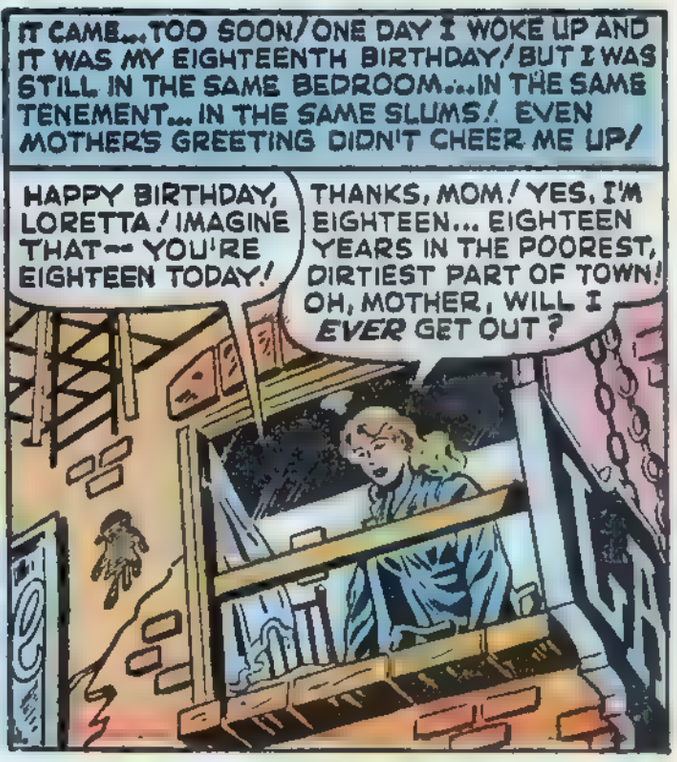
SOMEDAY, MOM, SOMEDAY I'M GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS NEIGHBORHOOD-- I'M GOING TO GROW UP AND MARRY A RICH MAN AND I'LL BE VERY HAPPY!

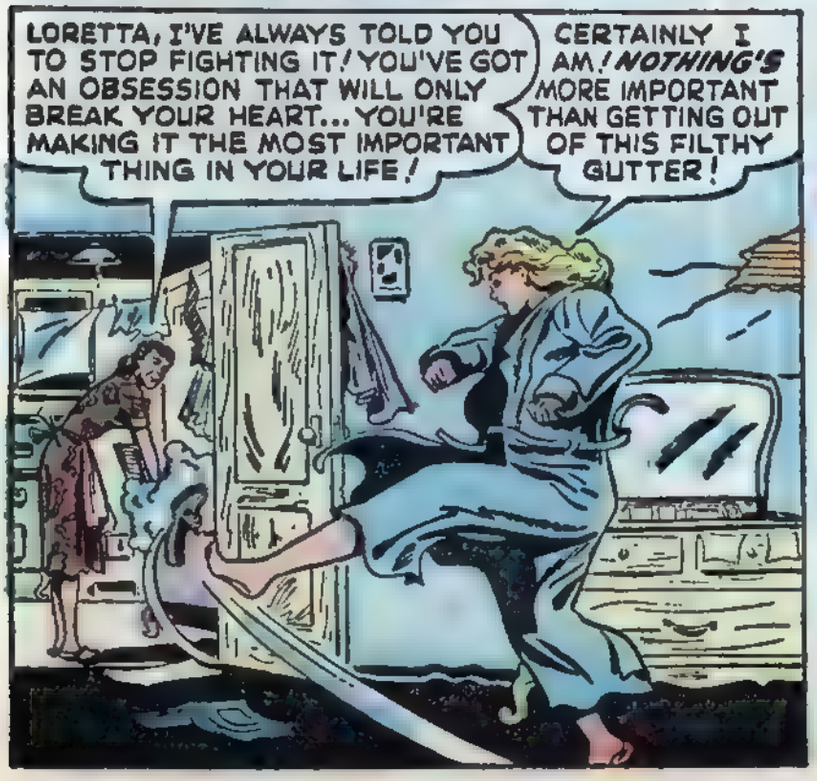
SURE, LORETTA, SURE! THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, TOO...TWENTY YEARS AGO! BUT LOOK AT ME TODAY! I'M STILL HERE--AND I'LL DIE HERE!

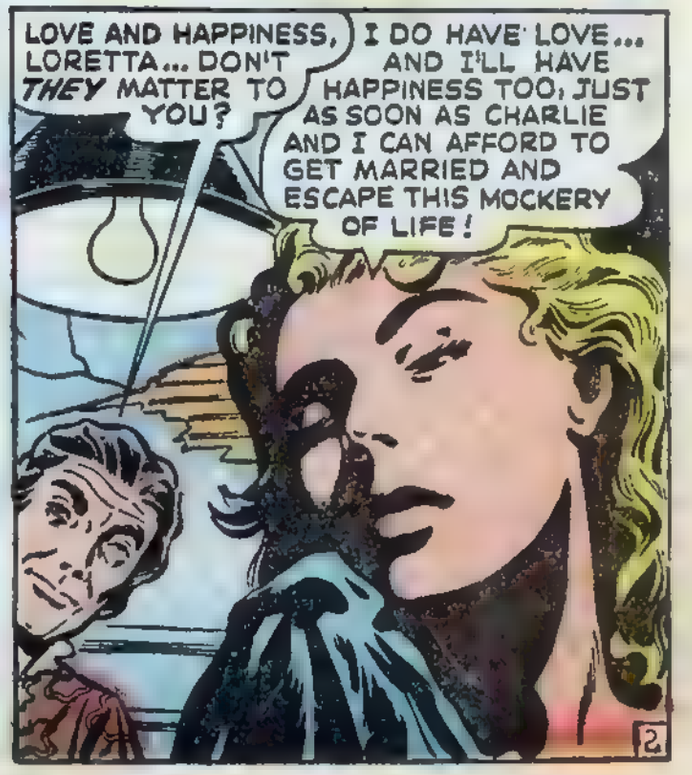

YOU CAN'T BEAT THE SLUMS, CHILD! PEOPLE LIKE US NEVER ESCAPE IT... IT'S NO USE TRYING...YOU'LL BREAK YOUR HEART IF YOU DO!
NOT ME, MOM-- I'M GETTING OUT! YOU'LL SEE-- I'LL GET OUT!


THAT WAS MY CONSTANT DREAM--TO GET OUT OF THE SLUMS! NOTHING IN LIFE WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT TO ME! AND I SHARED MY AMBITIONS WITH THE BOY NEXT DOOR, CHARLIE DELANEY...
YOU SEE THOSE SWELLS RIDING IN HIGH-CLASS CARS, LORETTA? THAT'S HOW WE'RE GOING TO BE WHEN WE GROW UP AND GET MARRIED, HUH?
YOU BETCHA, CHARLIE...THIS DIRTY PLACE ISN'T GOING TO HOLD US FOREVER!


CHARLIE AND I HAD THE SAME LIKES, THE SAME DREAMS AND HOPES--WE WERE BOTH AMBITIOUS AND ANXIOUS TO ESCAPE OUR POVERTY AT ANY COST! WE SPENT OUR CHILDHOOD IN PLANNING FOR THAT GLORIOUS FUTURE...
WE'LL WORK HARD AND STUDY...WE'LL SAVE OUR MONEY...AND SOMEDAY...
OH, CHARLIE, I CAN'T WAIT! IT WILL SEEM SUCH A LONG TIME TILL WE GROW UP! WILL IT EVER COME?
CLANK!

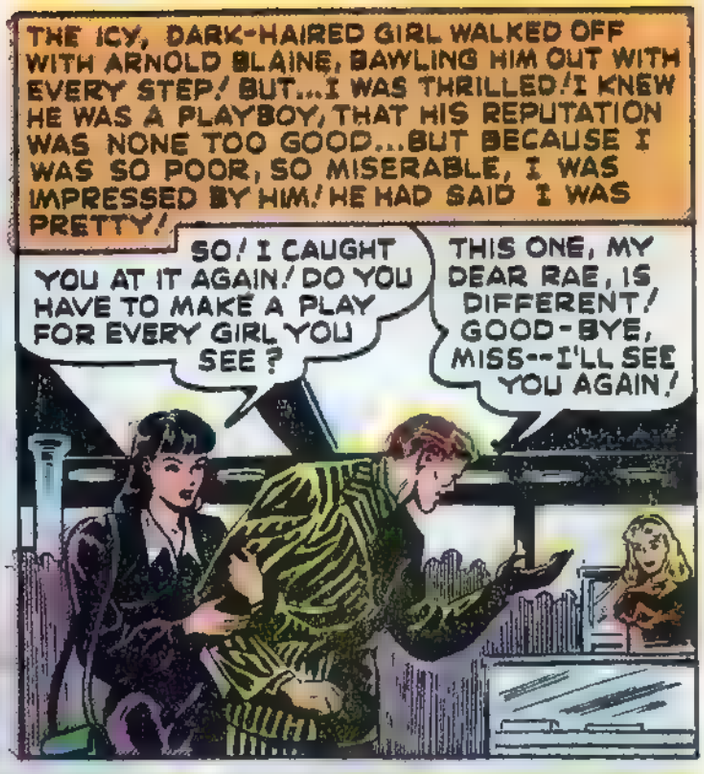

IT CAME...TOO SOON! ONE DAY I WOKE UP AND IT WAS MY EIGHTEENTH BIRTHDAY! BUT I WAS STILL IN THE SAME BEDROOM...IN THE SAME TENEMENT...IN THE SAME SLUMS! EVEN MOTHER'S GREETING DIDN'T CHEER ME UP!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LORETTA! IMAGINE THAT-- YOU'RE EIGHTEEN TODAY!
THANKS, MOM! YES, I'M EIGHTEEN... EIGHTEEN YEARS IN THE POOREST, DIRTIEST PART OF TOWN! OH, MOTHER, WILL I *EVER* GET OUT?

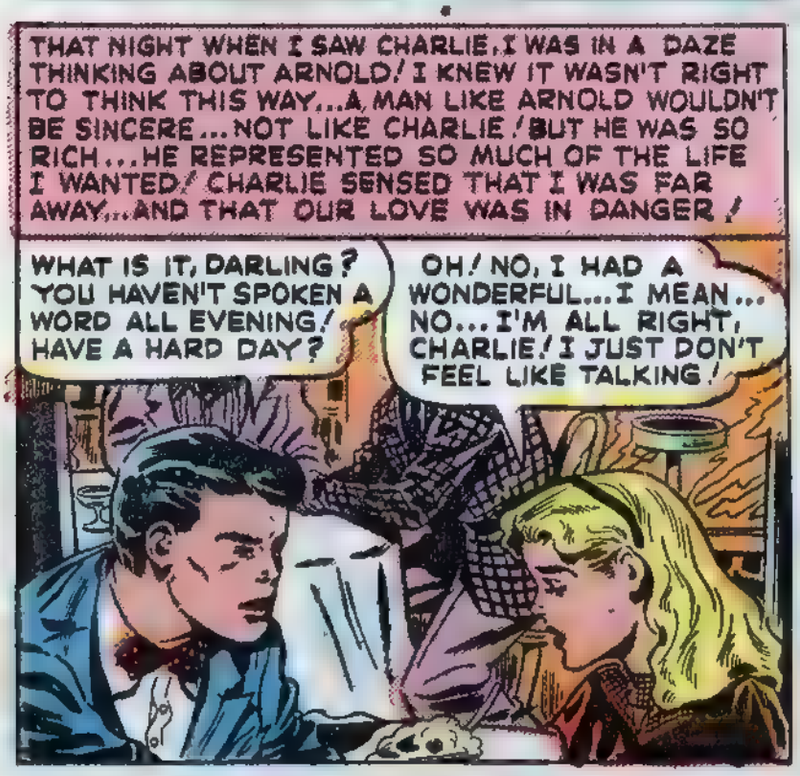

LORETTA, I'VE ALWAYS TOLD YOU TO STOP FIGHTING IT! YOU'VE GOT AN OBSESSION THAT WILL ONLY BREAK YOUR HEART...YOU'RE MAKING IT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN YOUR LIFE!
CERTAINLY I AM! *NOTHING'S* MORE IMPORTANT THAN GETTING OUT OF THIS FILTHY GUTTER!

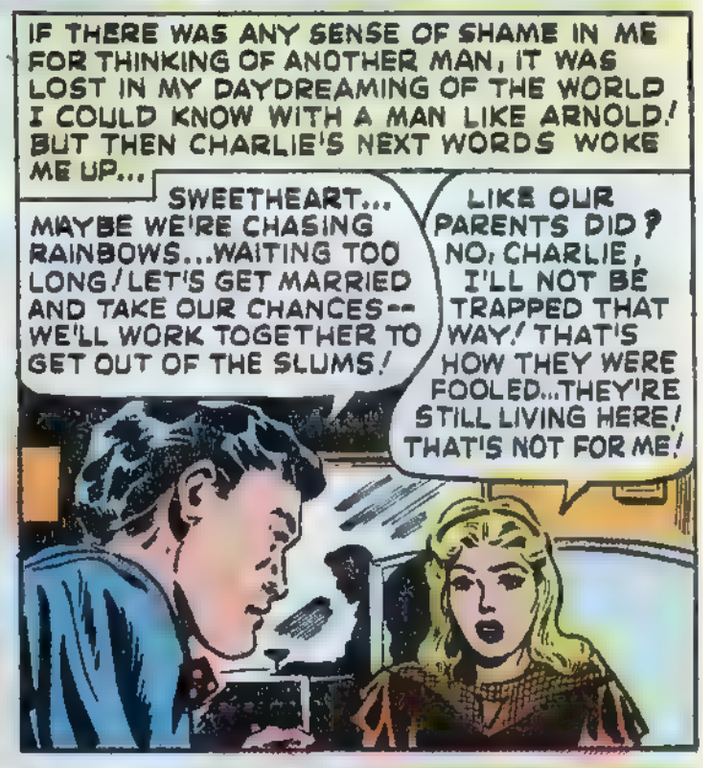

LOVE AND HAPPINESS, LORETTA... DON'T *THEY* MATTER TO YOU?
I DO HAVE LOVE... AND I'LL HAVE HAPPINESS TOO, JUST AS SOON AS CHARLIE AND I CAN AFFORD TO GET MARRIED AND ESCAPE THIS MOCKERY OF LIFE!
2

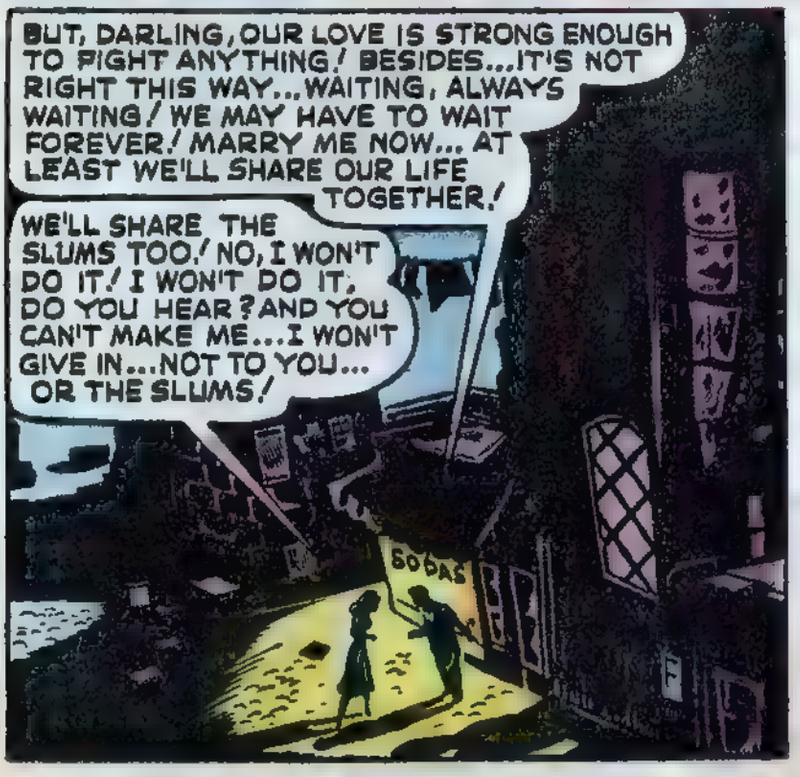
CHARLIE'S A GOOD BOY--HE'LL MAKE A GOOD HUSBAND NO MATTER WHERE YOU LIVE!... MARRY HIM NOW, LORETTA--THAT'S THE IMPORTANT THING! TAKE YOUR HAPPINESS WHERE YOU FIND IT... DON'T WAIT FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE OR YOU'LL NEVER KNOW PEACE... YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HAPPINESS!
OH, MOM, YOU'RE TALKING IN RIDDLES! HERE, HELP ME WITH MY ZIPPER! CHARLIE'S TAKING ME OUT TODAY!
CHARLIE HAD GROWN UP INTO A SPLENDID, GOOD-LOOKING YOUNG MAN! OUR EARLY LIKING FOR EACH OTHER HAD BLOOMED INTO LOVE...STRONG, BEAUTIFUL AND TRUE! WHEN HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS THAT DAY AND KISSED ME, MY HEART SANG A SONG OF HAPPINESS THAT COMES ONLY WHEN TWO YOUNG PEOPLE SHARE ROMANCE!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SWEETHEART!
OH, CHARLIE, YOU MAKE ME SO HAPPY!
YES, THERE WAS LIGHT IN THE SHABBINESS OF OUR LIVES...OUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER GLOWED LIKE AN ETERNAL FLAME, LIGHTING THE WAY THROUGH THE DARKNESS!
WE'RE GETTING OLDER, DARLING, AND WE'RE STILL STUCK IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD! HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET OUT?
IT DOES LOOK BAD--OUR JOBS DON'T PAY ENOUGH TO SAVE ANY MONEY ON! OH, CHARLIE, I'M AFRAID... SO AFRAID!
AND SO, AS THE DAY ENDED AND CHARLIE TOOK ME HOME TO THE HALLWAY OF MY CHEAP TENEMENT, WE CLUNG TO EACH OTHER, SEEKING PROTECTION FROM OUR IMPOVERISHED BIRTHRIGHT IN THE SECURITY AND WARMTH OF OUR LOVE!
DON'T BE AFRAID, SWEETHEART--WE STILL HAVE EACH OTHER!
BUT I AM AFRAID! WHEN I THINK OF THE YEARS AHEAD... I'M TERRIBLY AFRAID! CHARLIE, I'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET OUT... ANYTHING!
ALTHOUGH WE LOVED EACH OTHER, THE FUTURE LOOKED BLEAK AND GLUM...IT LOOKED AS THOUGH WE'D NEVER BE ABLE TO MAKE ENOUGH MONEY TO LEAVE THE SLUMS! CHARLIE HAD A POORLY PAYING JOB IN A FACTORY AND I WORKED AS A SALESGIRL IN A DEPARTMENT STORE!
LOOK AT THESE TIES... TWENTY DOLLARS EACH... THAT'S MORE THAN I MAKE IN A WEEK! OH, WHY DID I HAVE TO BE BORN POOR? WHY? WHY?
PARDON ME, MISS... WOULD YOU PLEASE HELP ME?
Ties
FROM THE VERY SOUND OF HIS VOICE, I KNEW THAT THIS WAS SOMEBODY SPECIAL! HIS MANNER, HIS POISE...ALL THIS TOLD ME THAT HE WAS FROM ANOTHER WORLD...THE WORLD I LONGED TO ENTER.
THESE TIES...I'D LIKE A FEW! CAN YOU HELP ME SELECT SOME THAT WOULD MATCH MY PERSONALITY?
WHY CERTAINLY, SIR! HOW ABOUT THIS ONE? IT'S VERY ATTRACTIVE!
CLOTHIN
Ties
I'LL TAKE A DOZEN! BY THE WAY, DID I INTERRUPT A DAYDREAM? YOU SEEMED TO BE IN QUITE A REVERIE...NOT NICE FOR A GIRL AS PRETTY AS YOU TO LOOK SO SAD!
OH, NO... NO, SIR! I WAS JUST THINKING... ER...SHALL I HAVE THESE SENT, SIR?
3

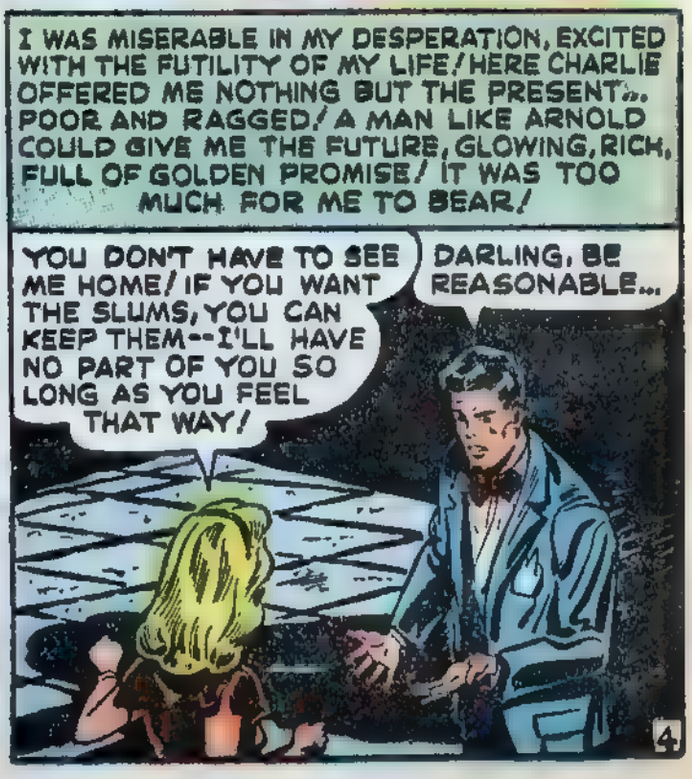
YES, PLEASE! MY NAME IS ARNOLD BLAINE...6206 MARK AVENUE!
THAT'S RIGHT, MISS! LITTLE ARNIE BLAINE, THE MILLIONAIRE PLAYBOY...WHOSE SPECIALTY IS MILLION DOLLAR BABIES IN DEPARTMENT STORES!
Chel


THE ICY, DARK-HAIRED GIRL WALKED OFF WITH ARNOLD BLAINE, BAWLING HIM OUT WITH EVERY STEP! BUT...I WAS THRILLED! I KNEW HE WAS A PLAYBOY, THAT HIS REPUTATION WAS NONE TOO GOOD...BUT BECAUSE I WAS SO POOR, SO MISERABLE, I WAS IMPRESSED BY HIM! HE HAD SAID I WAS PRETTY!
SO! I CAUGHT YOU AT IT AGAIN! DO YOU HAVE TO MAKE A PLAY FOR EVERY GIRL YOU SEE?
THIS ONE, MY DEAR RAE, IS DIFFERENT! GOOD-BYE, MISS--I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN!


THAT NIGHT WHEN I SAW CHARLIE, I WAS IN A DAZE THINKING ABOUT ARNOLD! I KNEW IT WASN'T RIGHT TO THINK THIS WAY...A MAN LIKE ARNOLD WOULDN'T BE SINCERE...NOT LIKE CHARLIE! BUT HE WAS SO RICH...HE REPRESENTED SO MUCH OF THE LIFE I WANTED! CHARLIE SENSED THAT I WAS FAR AWAY...AND THAT OUR LOVE WAS IN DANGER!
WHAT IS IT, DARLING? YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN A WORD ALL EVENING! HAVE A HARD DAY?
OH! NO, I HAD A WONDERFUL...I MEAN... NO...I'M ALL RIGHT, CHARLIE! I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE TALKING!


IF THERE WAS ANY SENSE OF SHAME IN ME FOR THINKING OF ANOTHER MAN, IT WAS LOST IN MY DAYDREAMING OF THE WORLD I COULD KNOW WITH A MAN LIKE ARNOLD! BUT THEN CHARLIE'S NEXT WORDS WOKE ME UP...
SWEETHEART... MAYBE WE'RE CHASING RAINBOWS...WAITING TOO LONG! LET'S GET MARRIED AND TAKE OUR CHANCES--WE'LL WORK TOGETHER TO GET OUT OF THE SLUMS!
LIKE OUR PARENTS DID? NO, CHARLIE, I'LL NOT BE TRAPPED THAT WAY! THAT'S HOW THEY WERE FOOLED...THEY'RE STILL LIVING HERE! THAT'S NOT FOR ME!


BUT, DARLING, OUR LOVE IS STRONG ENOUGH TO FIGHT ANYTHING! BESIDES...IT'S NOT RIGHT THIS WAY...WAITING, ALWAYS WAITING! WE MAY HAVE TO WAIT FOREVER! MARRY ME NOW...AT LEAST WE'LL SHARE OUR LIFE TOGETHER!
WE'LL SHARE THE SLUMS TOO! NO, I WON'T DO IT! I WON'T DO IT, DO YOU HEAR? AND YOU CAN'T MAKE ME...I WON'T GIVE IN...NOT TO YOU... OR THE SLUMS!
SODAS


I WAS MISERABLE IN MY DESPERATION, EXCITED WITH THE FUTILITY OF MY LIFE! HERE CHARLIE OFFERED ME NOTHING BUT THE PRESENT... POOR AND RAGGED! A MAN LIKE ARNOLD COULD GIVE ME THE FUTURE, GLOWING, RICH, FULL OF GOLDEN PROMISE! IT WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME TO BEAR!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE ME HOME! IF YOU WANT THE SLUMS, YOU CAN KEEP THEM--I'LL HAVE NO PART OF YOU SO LONG AS YOU FEEL THAT WAY!
DARLING, BE REASONABLE...
4

AT NIGHT, ALONE IN BED WITH MY CONSCIENCE, I FACED THE TRUTH OF HOW I REALLY FELT... AND I HATED MYSELF FOR IT!

I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO HARSH TO CHARLIE! HE LOOKED SO HURT... SO MISERABLE! AND HE MEANT WELL! BUT OUR LOVE WILL SURELY DIE IF I DO AS HE SAYS! WHY SHOULDN'T I KNOW AND ENJOY LIFE WHILE I'M STILL YOUNG? WHY SHOULD I BE TRAPPED FOREVER IN THE SQUALOR OF THIS PLACE AS LONG AS MEN LIKE ARNOLD BLAINE ARE IN EXISTENCE? I'M RIGHT! I KNOW I AM! I'VE *GOT* TO BE RIGHT... OR LIFE ISN'T WORTH LIVING!

AND SO I TALKED MYSELF INTO A RECEPTIVE FRAME OF MIND FOR WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO DO! I KNEW ARNOLD WOULD BE AROUND AGAIN... AND WHAT HARM WOULD A FEW INNOCENT DATES DO? THEN... A FEW DAYS LATER...

OH, HELLO, MR. BLAINE! YOU COULDN'T HAVE SPILLED GRAVY ON ALL THOSE TIES ALREADY!

NO, BUT BUYING TIES GIVES ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE YOU--AND TO ASK YOU TO HAVE DINNER WITH ME TONIGHT! MAY I CALL FOR YOU AT NINE?

OH, I'D LOVE TO! ONLY... I'LL MEET YOU! DON'T CALL FOR ME... PLEASE! I COULD MEET YOU SOME PLACE...

ANYTHING YOU DESIRE, MY DEAR! SHALL WE SAY THE COCKTAIL LOUNGE OF THE CORSAIR AT NINE?

Ties

HE WAS WONDERFUL! TALKING TO HIM MADE ME FEEL IMPORTANT AND WORTH WHILE-- I COULDN'T WAIT OUT THE DAY! BUT... CHARLIE WAS WAITING FOR ME TO TAKE ME HOME!

DARLING, I'M SORRY ABOUT LAST NIGHT--I GUESS I WAS OUT OF LINE! YOU KNOW I'D DO ANYTHING TO MAKE YOU HAPPY! TELL ME YOU'RE NOT ANGRY WITH ME, HONEY!

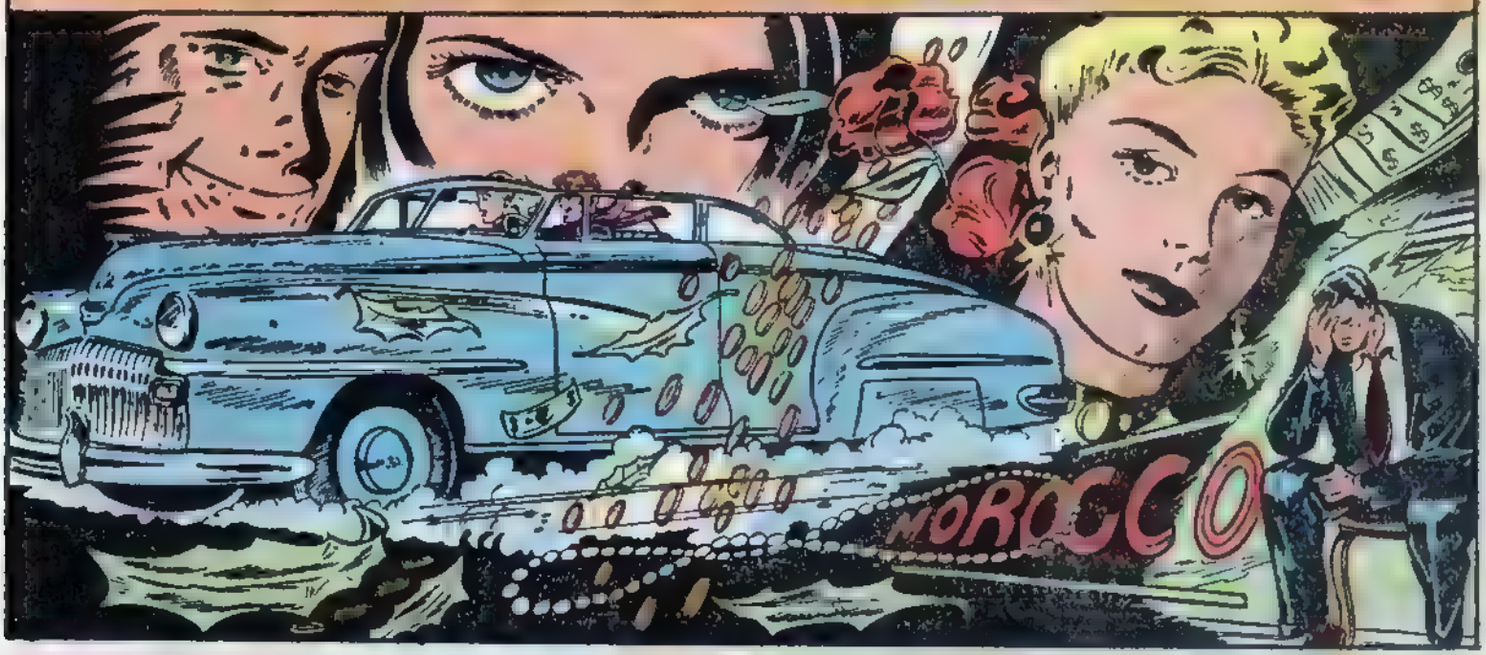
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SORRY ABOUT, CHARLIE-- WE WERE BOTH UPSET!

GOOD! THEN I'M FORGIVEN! LOOK... I TOOK A CHANCE THAT WE'D MAKE UP AND I GOT TWO TICKETS TO "WESTERN SKIES," THE HIT MUSICAL! BELIEVE ME, THEY WERE TOUGH TO GET, TOO! SO GET READY, DARLING, AND WE'LL CELEBRATE THE FACT THAT WE STILL LOVE EACH OTHER!

OH, I... CAN'T! ER... ONE OF THE GIRLS IN THE STORE IS GETTING MARRIED AND WE GIRLS ARE GIVING HER A SHOWER TONIGHT! GEE, I'M SORRY, CHARLIE!

I HAD LIED TO CHARLIE! I HATED MYSELF EVEN MORE... BUT I WAS TAKING NO CHANCES ON LOSING THE GLITTERING PROMISE OF THE DATE WITH ARNOLD! AND THAT DATE WAS ALL I'D HOPED IT WOULD BE--GAY, EXCITING AND GLAMOROUS!

HE WAS, TO MY SURPRISE, A GENTLEMAN ALL THE WAY! I HAD EXPECTED HIM TO TRY TO KISS ME, BUT HE DIDN'T... NOT THAT NIGHT, OR THE NIGHTS AND WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED... WHILE I WENT OUT WITH HIM, NEVER LETTING CHARLIE KNOW...



ARNOLD SPOILED ME FOR THE LIFE AND THE PEOPLE I HAD KNOWN! AND WHEN, AT LAST, IN ONE BREATHLESS INSTANT, HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS... MY HEART BEAT FASTER THAN EVER AS I FELT THE TOUCH OF HIS LIPS ON MY CHEEKS, AND HEARD HIS WORDS OF ROMANCE POURING INTO MY EAR!

I LOVE YOU, LORETTA... YOU'VE BROUGHT OUT THE GOOD IN ME! I WANT TO MARRY YOU, DARLING-- SAY YOU'LL BE MY WIFE!

THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

...OF COURSE I WILL, ARNOLD!

THERE! IT WAS DONE! I HAD REACHED MY GOAL AT LAST! NOW I COULD ESCAPE... NOW ALL MY DREAMS HAD COME TRUE! BUT THERE REMAINED ONE MORE THING TO DO, THE HARDEST OF ALL-- TELLING CHARLIE!

...THAT'S HOW IT IS, CHARLIE... I JUST CAN'T GIVE UP MY LIFE WAITING! TRY TO UNDERSTAND!

THAT'S A RELIEF, LORETTA-- I'M GLAD YOU TOLD ME!

I HADN'T EXPECTED THIS! I THOUGHT CHARLIE WOULD BE ANGRY, VINDICTIVE-- BUT NOT RELIEVED AND GLAD TO BE RID OF ME!

YOU SEE, LORETTA, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A WAY TO TELL YOU-- I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE, TOO! IT'S THE DAUGHTER OF THE OWNER OF THE FACTORY WHERE I WORK! I DIDN'T WANT TO MARRY HER BECAUSE OF MY PROMISE TO YOU... BUT NOW...

OH, CHARLIE, I'M SO GLAD... FOR BOTH OF US! I WISH WE COULD HAVE MARRIED EACH OTHER, BUT IF THAT ISN'T TO BE, AT LEAST WE'LL BOTH REALIZE OUR GOAL-- WE'LL GET OUT OF THE SLUMS!

YES! ISN'T IT WONDERFUL? WE'RE BOTH MARRYING RICH PEOPLE! WE'RE LUCKY... WE'RE LUCKIER THAN ANYBODY ELSE WHO EVER WAS BORN IN THIS MISERABLE FORSAKEN HOLE WE'VE LIVED IN!

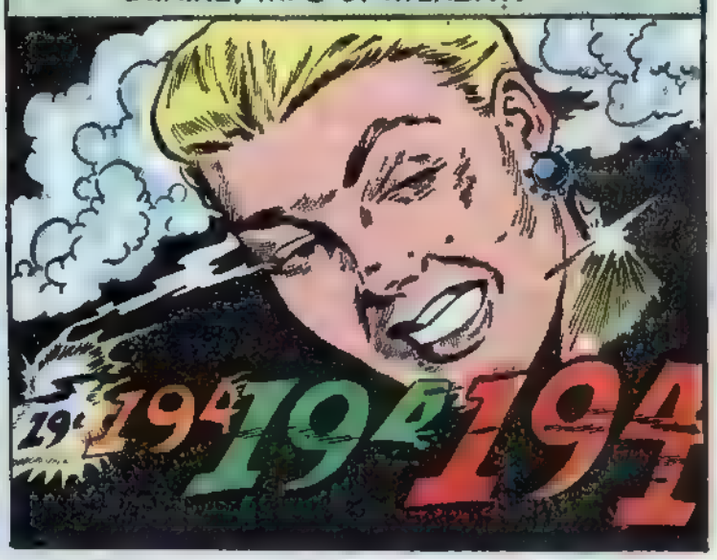
THEN WE WERE SILENT, LOOKING INTO EACH OTHER'S EYES! THE REMEMBRANCE OF WHAT WE HAD BEEN TO ONE ANOTHER CAME BACK IN AN OVERWHELMING FLOOD!... AND THE KNOWLEDGE THAT NOW WE EACH BELONGED TO SOMEONE ELSE... THAT THIS WAS GOOD-BYE... AND WE WERE HOLDING AND KISSING... FOR THE LAST TIME!

THE EVENTS THAT FOLLOWED MOVED SWIFTLY--ARNOLD AND I WERE MARRIED AND I MOVED IN WITH MOTHER INTO HIS BEAUTIFUL FLORIDA HOME! AT LAST ALL MY DREAMS AND HOPES HAD COME TRUE!

THIS IS YOURS, DARLING...ALL YOURS! AND WE HAVE ANOTHER HOME IN NEW YORK...

OH, ARNOLD, I FEEL LIKE CINDERELLA! I HOPE MIDNIGHT NEVER STRIKES...THIS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

IN MY NEW LIFE I HAD LITTLE TIME TO REMEMBER MY OLD ONE--OR CHARLIE! BUT IF MY CONSCIENCE EVER HURT ME, I THOUGHT OF THE FACT THAT HE, TOO, HAD TAKEN THE SAME PATH I DID, SO I OWED HIM NOTHING! THE YEARS PASSED FOR ME AS MRS. ARNOLD BLAINE, WIFE OF WEALTH!

19  41 1941

BUT I DISCOVERED ONE THING--A LEOPARD CANNOT CHANGE HIS SPOTS! ARNOLD HAD REVERTED TO HIS OLD ROLE OF PLAYBOY AFTER A YEAR OF MARRIED LIFE... AND I COULDN'T STOP HIM!

ARE YOU TELLING ME HOW TO LIVE MY LIFE? LOOK, I'M GOOD TO YOU...TOOK YOU OUT OF THE SLUMS...GAVE YOU CLOTHES, MONEY, EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED! BUT DON'T CRITICIZE ME, PLEASE!

BUT, ARNOLD, I'M YOUR WIFE! MARRIAGE MEANS MORE THAN JUST CLOTHES AND MONEY!

DOES IT? YOU DIDN'T SEEM TO THINK SO AT ONE TIME! YOU WANTED TO GET OUT OF THE SLUMS AT ANY PRICE... AND I WAS THE PRICE! LET WELL ENOUGH ALONE, MY DEAR... I WAS WILLING TO HAVE YOU TAKE MY NAME... BUT NOT MY FREEDOM!

I'VE...GOT THAT COMING, I GUESS! I *DID* WANT SECURITY AND WEALTH, I'LL ADMIT... BUT NOT *THIS* WAY... NOT BY LOSING YOUR LOVE!

YOU HAVEN'T LOST MY LOVE! I STILL LOVE YOU... IN MY FASHION! LIVE YOUR LIFE, MY DEAR, BUT LET ME LIVE MINE!

I DIDN'T LEAVE HIM! IF I'D HAD SOMEONE TO GO TO...LIKE CHARLIE..., PERHAPS I WOULD HAVE, BUT I HAD LOST HIM, TOO! SO I RESIGNED MYSELF TO THE ROLE OF A NEGLECTED WIFE, SURROUNDED BY WEALTH BUT SURROUNDED, TOO, BY BOREDOM, MISERY! THOUGH I HAD GAINED MONEY AND POSITION--I DID NOT KNOW HAPPINESS!

THEN...IT WAS THE WINTER OF 1948... WE HAD COME BACK TO DULUTH FOR A VISIT! I WAS A FAR DIFFERENT PERSON THAN I HAD BEEN WHEN I LEFT...OLDER, AND WITH THE SPARKLE OF LIFE GONE FROM MY EYES! THEN... AS I LOOKED OUT OF MY HOTEL WINDOW...

STRANGE! I THOUGHT I HATED THIS TOWN, BUT I DON'T! I WAS BORN HERE... I KNEW LOVE HERE...REAL LOVE... WORTH MORE THAN ALL THE RICHES ON EARTH! AND THERE, OVER PAST THOSE BUILDINGS, ARE THE SLUMS WHERE I KNEW THAT LOVE!

I HAD A SUDDEN URGE TO GO BACK TO THE SLUMS--TO VISIT THAT AWFUL PLACE ONCE AGAIN! I HAD HENRY, MY CHAUFFEUR, DRIVE ME THERE...

QUITE A STRANGE PLACE FOR *YOU* TO VISIT, MRS. BLAINE!

NOT STRANGE, HENRY! YOU SEE, THIS WAS ONCE MY HOME! YOU WAIT HERE...I WANT TO WALK AROUND A BIT!

HENRY WAS WIDE-EYED WITH AMAZEMENT, BUT I DIDN'T CARE WHAT HE THOUGHT! AS I WALKED ALONE THROUGH THE FAMILIAR SCENES OF MY CHILDHOOD, I FELT HAPPY... BUT WITH A BURNING PANG OF REGRET FOR THE WAY LIFE HAD TURNED OUT!

TO THINK I FOUND LOVE HERE IN THIS SQUALOR...BUT COULDN'T FIND IT IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY! LIFE CAN PLAY SOME PRETTY STRANGE TRICKS!

BUT I DIDN'T KNOW *NOW* STRANGE UNTIL... I SAW A FAMILIAR FIGURE, SHABBILY DRESSED... A FACTORY WORKER ON HIS WAY HOME...

CHARLIE!

YES, IT WAS CHARLIE, STILL ONE OF THE IMPOVERISHED HORDE, LOOKING LIKE EVERY OTHER MAN IN THAT NEIGHBORHOOD! HE WAS SURPRISED TO SEE ME, BUT TRIED TO WALK PAST... I STOPPED HIM!

CHARLIE! DON'T YOU KNOW ME? IT'S LORETTA! WHY ARE YOU HERE? YOU WERE GOING TO GET MARRIED...TO LEAVE THE SLUMS... AS I DID!

I NEVER LEFT THE SLUMS, LORETTA! I NEVER GOT MARRIED -- THERE WAS NO BOSS'S DAUGHTER!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THEN WHY DID YOU TELL ME THERE WAS?

TO SET YOU FREE, LORETTA...AND TO SAVE MY PRIDE WHEN YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE MARRYING A RICH MAN! I'VE BEEN ALONE ALL THESE YEARS--A BACHELOR! BUT YOU, LORETTA...YOU MUST BE HAPPY...YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU'VE EVER WANTED!

YOU'RE WRONG, CHARLIE! I'VE GOT NOTHING! I... DIDN'T FIND THE HAPPINESS I SOUGHT... I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LEFT YOU!
I'M SORRY, LORETTA... SORRY THAT THINGS TURNED OUT THIS WAY! I GUESS IT WAS MY FAULT... I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET YOU GO... I SHOULD HAVE FOUGHT FOR YOU! BUT AFTER YOU LEFT, NOTHING MATTERED ANY MORE--I STOPPED FIGHTING--FOR ANYTHING!
CHARLIE, DEAREST--FATE'S BEEN SO CRUEL--TOO CRUEL! I WAS TOO BLIND WITH AMBITION--I WAS THE ONE WHO WOULD LET NOTHING STOP ME! IS IT TOO LATE, CHARLIE? IS IT TOO LATE NOW?
YES... I'M AFRAID IT IS! WE CAN PLAN OUR FUTURE, LORETTA... BUT NOT OUR PAST... WE CAN'T CHANGE THAT!
BESIDES... YOU'VE LIVED YOUR LIFE OF WEALTH TOO LONG... YOU CAN'T CHANGE... YOU CAN'T COME BACK TO THIS! GO, LORETTA... AND DON'T COME BACK... NOT EVER!
I LONGED TO HAVE HIM HOLD ME FOR THE LAST TIME... BECAUSE I KNEW THAT THIS WAS REALLY THE LAST TIME! BUT I TURNED AWAY QUICKLY AND GOT INTO MY CAR!
HOME, HENRY-- AT ONCE!
YES, MRS. BLAINE!
AS THE SLEEK LIMOUSINE GLIDED THROUGH THE DESERTED STREET, I LOOKED BACK THROUGH MY TEARS TO SEE CHARLIE STANDING THERE WATCHING ME!
AND AS I GOT FURTHER AWAY HIS FORM MERGED WITH THE SILHOUETTE OF THE SLUMS, BLENDING NATURALLY... AND I KNEW I HAD SEEN THEM BOTH FOR THE LAST TIME... AND THAT I HAD LEFT MY HEART BEHIND ME, THERE IN THE SQUALOR AND MISERY... WHERE I CAN NEVER AGAIN RECLAIM IT!
DULUTH
The End

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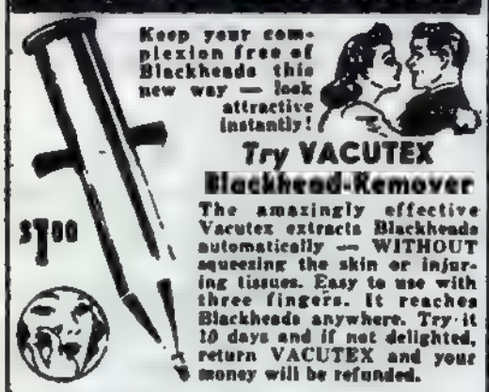

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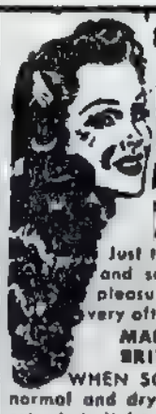

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I HAD two ambitions throughout my childhood—to become a famous actress, and to climb the Eiffel Tower. The Tower fascinated me—no one from our town had ever scaled it—therefore, I was determined to earn that distinction.

Acting was another prize scorned by the local boys and girls; naturally, it was clear to me that I must also be a great actress.

The Tower was quickly forgotten. I was busy putting four years of dramatic school behind me, and ahead was the theatre—New York! But finally on my way to share my aunt's beautiful New York apartment, all I could think of on the train was that I was homesick!

I went to the water-cooler for a drink, and the water reminded me that I hadn't eaten for hours, so I repaired my make-up and headed for the diner.

Suddenly, as I swayed through the cars— I felt *brand-new*! The horrible feeling of aloneness had disappeared. And, just as I reached for the dining-car door, a hand swept by and opened it for me.

I thanked the owner of the hand, without bothering to turn around. There was a long line—surely a half-hour's wait. I thought of going back to my compartment, but when I appraised the longer line forming behind me I decided to hold my ground.

It was then I noticed my door-opener. He was positively handsome! Smiling, he said, "I'm in exactly the same predicament, but I guess we're both better off than the others in back of us!"

"I thought the line might be shorter later on," I answered.

"It will be, but so will the food. Cigarette?"

"No, thank you," I said. "Don't want to spoil the taste of the food—I'm so hungry!"

"So'm I. Haven't eaten since last night," he said.

"Oh! Then you really *must* be hungry."

"No, not at all . . . in fact, I'd forgotten all about food until I happened to go to the cooler for a drink of water."

I fell back against the side of the car and laughed aloud.

"I'm really sorry," I finally said, recovering, "to inflict my silly joke on you. It really wasn't that funny—just amusing, that both of us had to take a drink of water in order to remember we were hungry."

"But, of course, it was funny," he said, seriously. "It was the funniest—the most human—experience I've had in months." He looked about the car, and I knew that smile and those shining eyes went only with feeling happy.

"When his gaze came back to the table he announced, solemnly, "My name is Andy Ainsworth. What's yours?"

"Mitzi Hamilton."

"Mitzi," he said, "laughter is nothing to be annoyed about. It's a good thing . . . a real thing. Now, why did I come in here, anyway?"

"You were hungry, kind sir—remember?" I helped, my curtsey slightly curtailed by my sitting position. Besides, the waiter was in the way.

Then, together, we chorused, "Shall we eat?" And we did.

It was a wonderful trip. By the time we arrived at Grand Central Station we seemed to know each other thoroughly, though we hadn't actually talked about *us* at all!

Finally Andy touched my hand, saying, "Mitzi, there is so much more that I would like to say to you—but, for now, may I thank you—for being so sweet . . . so interested . . . so real? I can't tell you how long it's been since I've felt, mentally, so cleansed and rested and alert."

"Don't give me all the credit, Andy," I said. "You talked and I only listened . . . and I enjoyed every mile of it."

"It's such a talent to be able to *only* listen, dear. You have the knack, and I was the lucky one—to find you. To me it's so important—to be *with* someone, to talk *to* someone—to enjoy even a joke about a glass of water that way. I haven't been able to enjoy life, or people, or even things, for such a long time. And that kind of hunger can kill the best part of a human being."

Suddenly I realized I hadn't said a word to Andy about my career, and that the only vital statistics we had about each other was our names.

As the train slowed to a halt Andy asked, "Mitzi, I'd like to call you at your aunt's. May I?"

"Of course, Andy. I'd like you to!"

Holding my hand, he smiled a polite good-bye, but I could feel the tenderness I had shared on the train, in his smile.

My aunt met me, and we drove home. Until now, I'd only seen apartments like this one in magazines, and I was thrilled to think of living in one, in style. Aunt Helen murmured, slyly, "I'll just be around long enough to pay the bills, and to get material for letters about your behavior to write your mother. But she was just joking, I knew, for she started giving the loveliest parties for me, and they helped in my work as well as socially, since at them I met other actresses who gave me hints about attacking the casting offices.

I didn't hear a word from Andy the whole first week. But on the following Tuesday, descending in an elevator, I suddenly heard, "Pardon me, but do you know where I can get

a glass of water? I'm hungry!"

It was Andy, of course. And when he threw his arms about me, I felt as though we had never been apart. We had lunch together, then dinner. We attended the theatre that night—everything about being with him was as glorious as it had been on the train.

"It's so good to be with you again, Mitzi," he said, "but I won't be able to see you very often in the next few weeks. Those six months I spent in Hollywood seem to have put me back six years, and just as soon as I catch up on the job, we'll have to start catching up on *us*."

"Of course, Andy," I said, "the cup of water's always available."

Then Andy smiled and said, very quietly and seriously, "You know, I love you, Mitzi darling. Right now I'm trying to do a hundred different things, and my work is in a state of real confusion. In fact, I wasn't even ready to say what I did, but I just couldn't wait."

"Goodnight, Andy, dear," I whispered, as he kissed me.

I was still running into "no casting to-day" in producers' offices, but I did have a stroke of luck in radio. I was waiting for a friend to finish rehearsing when suddenly I heard "Will Mitzi Hamilton please report to Studio 3A" on the amplifier. My friend, suddenly "losing" her voice, had recommended me for her part! When it was over, they all said I'd done extremely well, and the producer offered me a part in a day-time serial.

Now, I felt, I had finally gotten a real start, and was reading over my part in the studio a few days later, when Andy appeared, with the greeting, "You'll find no water around here, Mitzi Hamilton."

"Andy, how are you? What are you doing here?"

"I'm just fine, but a little puzzled about what *you're* doing here!"

"I'm on the Paul Keating show."

"What? You're an actress? But why didn't you tell me?"

"I never had a chance to! And, besides, if I really am one, I have about two minutes to prove it in," I finished, as I dashed into the inside studio. I all but missed the odd smile on Andy's face, but still I didn't connect it with the message I received later, to see Miss Higby, of Artists, Inc., at once. When I did, she ushered me through a tall glass door, inscribed "Andrew Ainsworth, In Charge Of Creative Productions."

And there was Andy, behind a tremendous desk, a glass of water in his hand—a solemn expression trying to hide his big grin! I started toward him, laughing, and the faster I walked, the harder I laughed. His kiss stopped both my flight and my laughter, and I whispered.

"Andy, Andy! I couldn't think of a thing but you!"

Then he touched my lips with his fingertips, correcting me—"You mean *us*, sweetheart. I'm not a bit confused now. Will you marry me? See what I mean?"

"Only after you explain why you never told me you were in the theatre—and a vice-president at that!"

"I never had a chance to talk about *me*, but if you'll give me a minute I'll get to it. First, will you handle the lead in my play that's going into production after our honeymoon in Paris?"

"I'm simply overwhelmed, darling?" He had the silliest ably dramatic.

Andy must have thought I was hungry, for he replied, "Would a glass of water help, darling?" He had the silliest smirk on his face!

"You know what'll happen" I warned.

"It's all right, sweetheart," he replied, "cause they serve meals on all the Paris planes!"

So my other childhood ambition would soon be realized, too. I'd actually get to climb the Eiffel Tower!

THE END SL—6982

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946

of My Own Romance published bi-monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1949.

State of New York } ss.
County of New York }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Robert Solomon, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the My Romance and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily, weekly, semiweekly or triweekly newspaper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Red Circle Magazines, Inc., 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.; Editor, Stan Lee, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.; Managing Editor, Martin Goodman, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.; Business Manager, Robert Solomon, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

Red Circle Magazines, Inc., 350 5th Avenue, New York 1 N. Y.; Abraham Goodman, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.; David Goodman, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.; Jerome A. Perles, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.; Morris Siegel, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is ..... (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

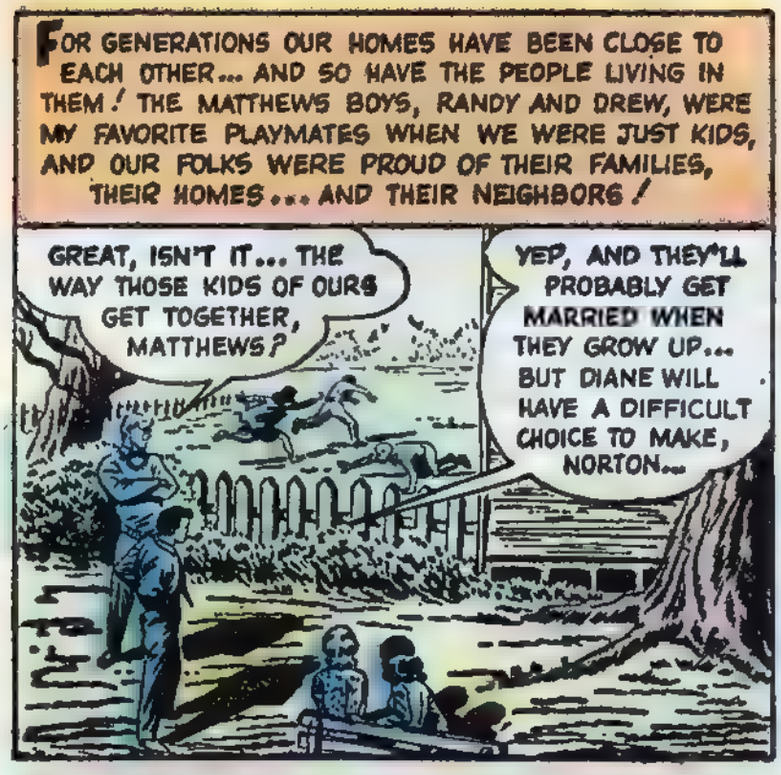
(Signed) ROBERT SOLOMON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of September, 1949.

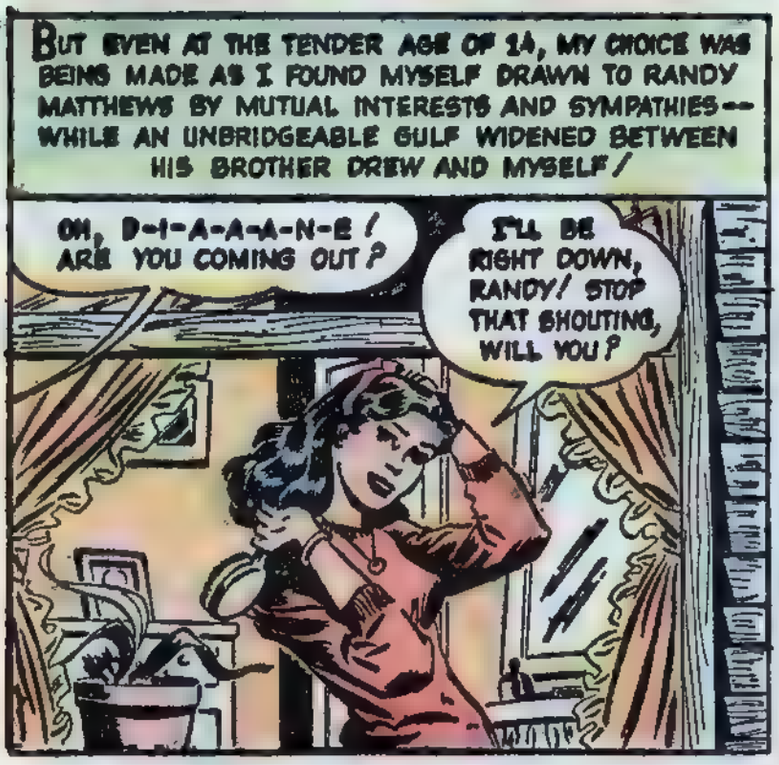
(SEAL) GRACE TARULLI

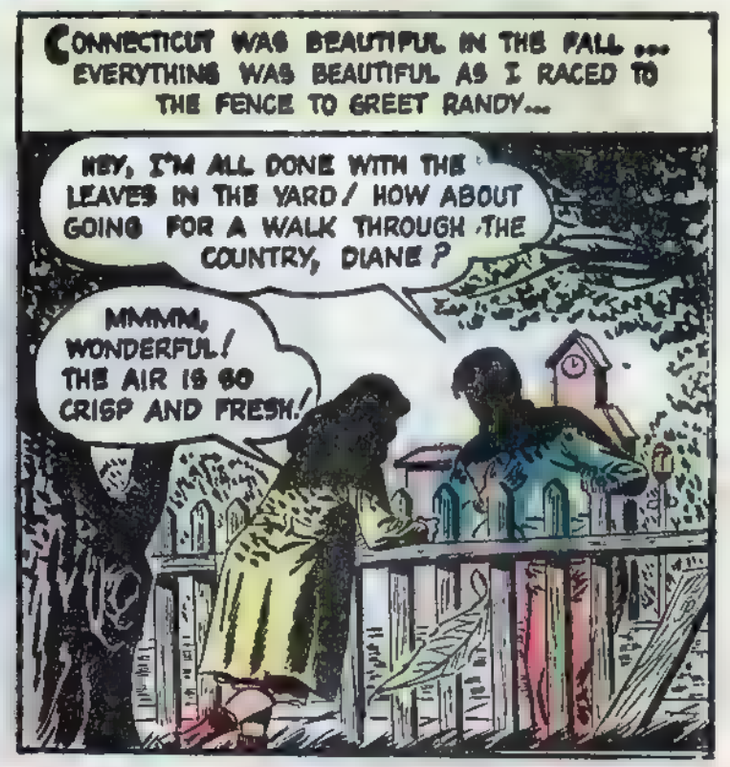
(My commission expires March 30, 1950.)

ALL MY LIFE I HAD FEARED HIM! FEARED THAT COLD, DANGEROUS MAN WHOM RANDY MATTHEWS CALLED BROTHER! FOR I KNEW THAT DREW MATTHEWS WOULD STOP AT NOTHING TO TAKE ME FROM RANDY... AS HE HAD SWORN TO DO!
RUTHLESS!
7100
THE WHOLE STORY HAD IT'S BEGINNING YEARS AGO... IN A QUIET LITTLE CONNECTICUT SUBURB! LITTLE DID I DREAM THAT OUT OF THIS PLACE OF COMFORTABLE HOMES AND HAPPY FAMILIES WOULD COME TERROR AND TRAGEDY TO HAUNT MY DREAMS!

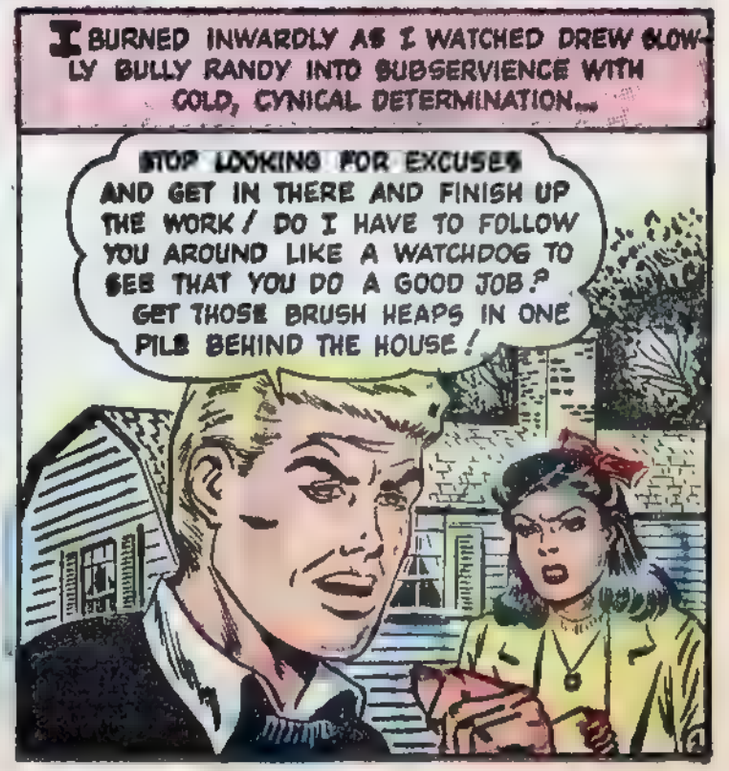

FOR GENERATIONS OUR HOMES HAVE BEEN CLOSE TO EACH OTHER... AND SO HAVE THE PEOPLE LIVING IN THEM! THE MATTHEWS BOYS, RANDY AND DREW, WERE MY FAVORITE PLAYMATES WHEN WE WERE JUST KIDS, AND OUR FOLKS WERE PROUD OF THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR HOMES... AND THEIR NEIGHBORS!
GREAT, ISN'T IT... THE WAY THOSE KIDS OF OURS GET TOGETHER, MATTHEWS?
YEP, AND THEY'LL PROBABLY GET MARRIED WHEN THEY GROW UP... BUT DIANE WILL HAVE A DIFFICULT CHOICE TO MAKE, NORTON...

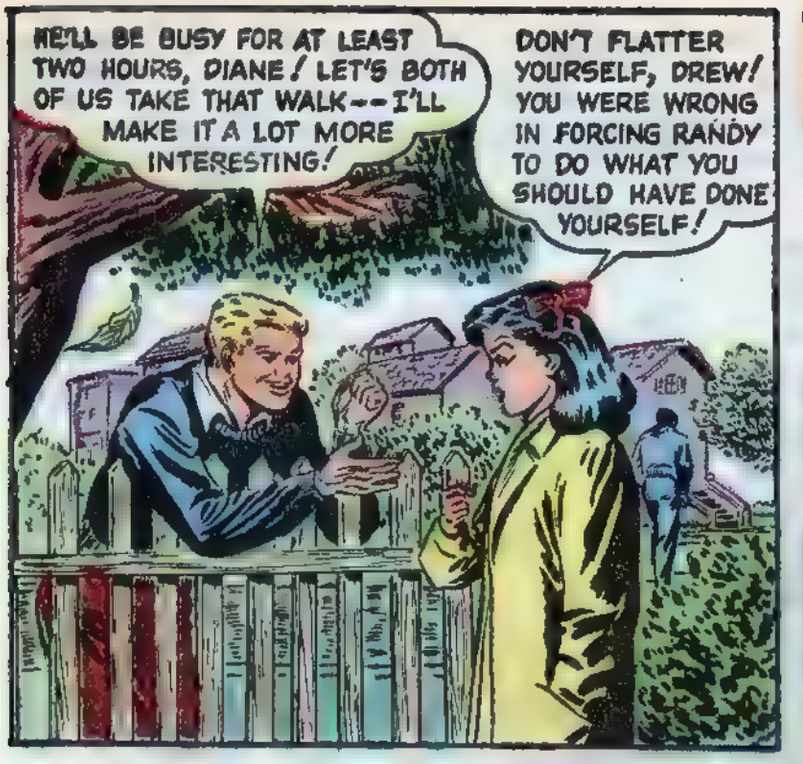
...THERE'S ONLY ONE OF HER, AND TWO OF MY FINE BOYS!
WILL YOU LISTEN TO THE MEN, EMMA... AND THEY SAY IT'S WE WOMEN WHO ARE ALWAYS PLANNING THE WEDDINGS!

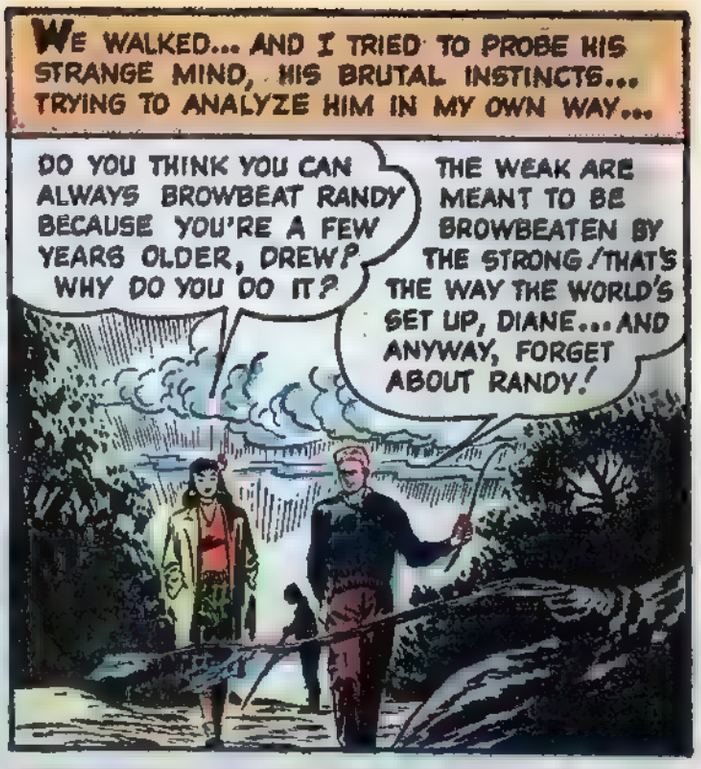

BUT EVEN AT THE TENDER AGE OF 14, MY CHOICE WAS BEING MADE AS I FOUND MYSELF DRAWN TO RANDY MATTHEWS BY MUTUAL INTERESTS AND SYMPATHIES -- WHILE AN UNBRIDGEABLE GULF WIDENED BETWEEN HIS BROTHER DREW AND MYSELF!
OH, D-I-A-A-A-N-E! ARE YOU COMING OUT?
I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN, RANDY! STOP THAT SHOUTING, WILL YOU?


CONNECTICUT WAS BEAUTIFUL IN THE FALL... EVERYTHING WAS BEAUTIFUL AS I RACED TO THE FENCE TO GREET RANDY...
HEY, I'M ALL DONE WITH THE LEAVES IN THE YARD! HOW ABOUT GOING FOR A WALK THROUGH THE COUNTRY, DIANE?
MMMM, WONDERFUL! THE AIR IS SO CRISP AND FRESH!

WE WERE ABOUT TO SET OUT, WHEN...
SORRY TO BUST UP YOUR LITTLE STROLL, DIANE, BUT RANDY'S GOT PLENTY MORE TO DO AROUND THE HOUSE BEFORE HE SIGNS OFF!
GOSH, DREW, WHAT ELSE IS THERE? I'VE RAKED THE LEAVES, STACKED THE BRUSH AND EVEN BURNED THE PAPERS! THAT'S ALL I WAS SUPPOSED TO DO!

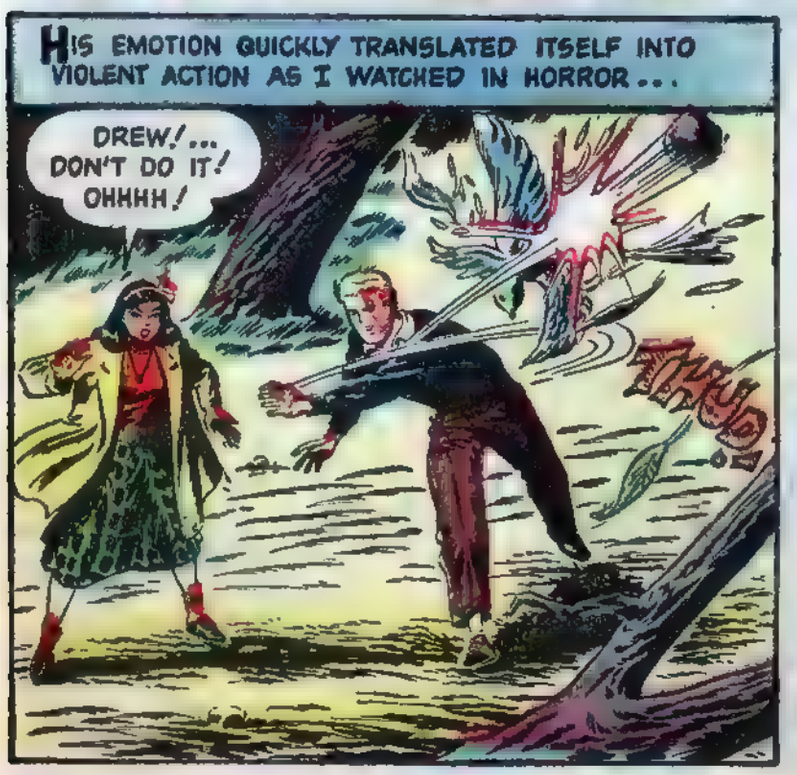

I BURNED INWARDLY AS I WATCHED DREW SLOWLY BULLY RANDY INTO SUBSERVIENCE WITH COLD, CYNICAL DETERMINATION...
STOP LOOKING FOR EXCUSES AND GET IN THERE AND FINISH UP THE WORK! DO I HAVE TO FOLLOW YOU AROUND LIKE A WATCHDOG TO SEE THAT YOU DO A GOOD JOB? GET THOSE BRUSH HEAPS IN ONE PILE BEHIND THE HOUSE!


HE'LL BE BUSY FOR AT LEAST TWO HOURS, DIANE! LET'S BOTH OF US TAKE THAT WALK--I'LL MAKE IT A LOT MORE INTERESTING!
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF, DREW! YOU WERE WRONG IN FORCING RANDY TO DO WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE YOURSELF!


WE WALKED... AND I TRIED TO PROBE HIS STRANGE MIND, HIS BRUTAL INSTINCTS... TRYING TO ANALYZE HIM IN MY OWN WAY...
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN ALWAYS BROWBEAT RANDY BECAUSE YOU'RE A FEW YEARS OLDER, DREW? WHY DO YOU DO IT?
THE WEAK ARE MEANT TO BE BROWBEATEN BY THE STRONG/THAT'S THE WAY THE WORLD'S SET UP, DIANE... AND ANYWAY, FORGET ABOUT RANDY!

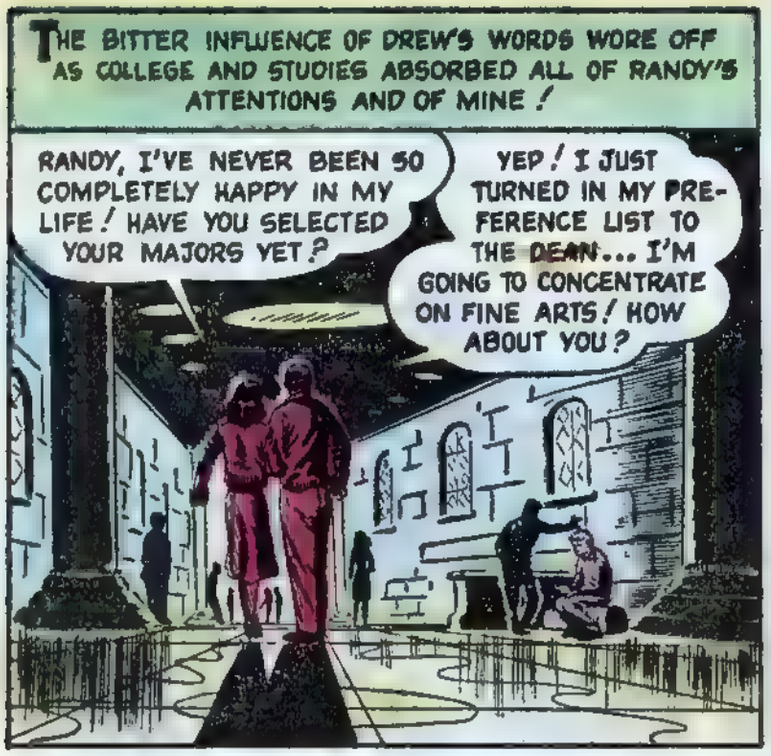
I WON'T FORGET ABOUT HIM, DREW! WE'VE GROWN UP TOGETHER, BUT THE MORE YOU MISTREAT RANDY, THE LESS I LIKE YOU!
IT'S THAT OLD MATERNAL INSTINCT, I GUESS-- THE WOMAN PLEADING FOR THE UNDERDOG!

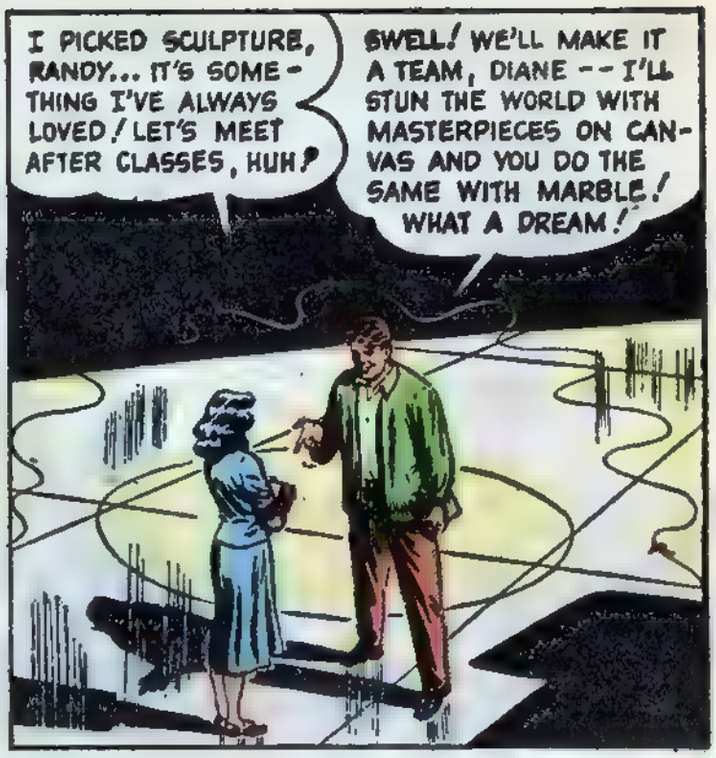
SUDDENLY HE TURNED TO ME AND SCARED ME WITH AN INTENSE, FRIGHTENING GLANCE...
LISTEN, DIANE... I LOVE YOU! I'VE LOVED YOU FOR A LONG TIME AND I GO CRAZY SEEING ANYBODY ELSE NEAR YOU, TALKING TO YOU, LOOKING AT YOU! THAT GOES FOR RANDY, TOO!
...STOP, DREW!

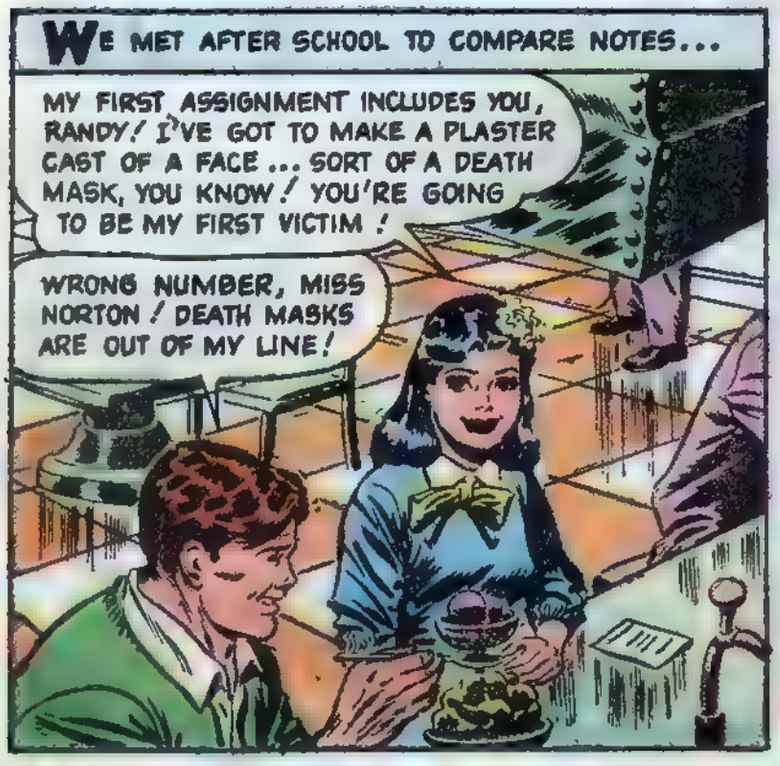

HIS EMOTION QUICKLY TRANSLATED ITSELF INTO VIOLENT ACTION AS I WATCHED IN HORROR...
DREW!... DON'T DO IT! OHHHH!

YOU'VE KILLED THE POOR THING! YOU'RE A CRUEL, VIOLENT PERSON, DREW-- YOU MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME EVEN TO TALK TO YOU!
YEAH? SOME PLACE I HEARD SOMETHING ONCE THAT GOES LIKE THIS... "HE KILLS THAT WHICH HE LOVES BEST!" THAT'S ME, I GUESS!

RANDY AND I GRADUATED AT THE SAME TIME, A FEW YEARS LATER, AND WE PLANNED OUR FUTURE COURSE TOGETHER...
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL, RANDY? OHH, I JUST WISH WE COULD BE TOGETHER IN COLLEGE!
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO TALK TO TALK YOU ABOUT... IT ISN'T GOING TO BE AS EASY AS THAT!
I LOVED HIM FOR HIS KINDNESS AND GENTLE UNDERSTANDING AS HE TALKED...
IT'S DREW, DIANE! I'M EIGHTEEN NOW AND I COULDN'T BEAR TO GO THROUGH FOUR YEARS OF COLLEGE UNDER HIS DOMINATING INFLUENCE... AND YET HE'S MY BROTHER, AND I DO HAVE AN ATTACHMENT TO HIM!
I UNDERSTAND DREW, DIANE! HE'S IMPULSIVE AND BRUTAL AT TIMES, BUT IT'S JUST HIS WAY! HE'S ANGRY AT THE WORLD AND HE'S USED ME TO VENT HIS FEELINGS!
JUST WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, RANDY?
IT'S JUST THIS, DIANE -- I DON'T WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE WITH YOU IF DREW IS GOING TO BE THERE ALSO! I'D RATHER BE ALONE THAN FEEL HIS CRUSHING INFLUENCE ON ME!
OH, RANDY, THAT'S JUST WHAT I WAS GOING TO SUGGEST! LOOK, WE'RE BOTH INTERESTED IN ART AND WE KNOW DREW ABHORS THE SUBJECT! WHY DON'T WE GO TO A SCHOOL THAT TEACHES ART EXCLUSIVELY?
THAT NIGHT DREW CALLED ON ME AND THE LOOK IN HIS EYES SPELLED DANGER...
I HAD HOPED WE'D GO TO SOME COLLEGE TOGETHER, DIANE, BUT I JUST LEARNED THAT YOU AND RANDY HAVE SQUEEZED ME OUT OF THE PICTURE!
IT ISN'T THAT AT ALL, DREW -- IT'S SIMPLY THAT RANDY AND I DECIDED TO TAKE UP ART SERIOUSLY! YOU SHOULDN'T GO ON THINKING THAT EVERYTHING PEOPLE DO IS MEANT TO HARM YOU!
WHY ARE YOU SO MUCH ON THE DEFENSIVE, DREW? HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO GET ALONG IN THE WORLD WITH SUCH A PHILOSOPHY?
I'LL MAKE IT SIMPLE, DIANE -- I LOVE YOU AND I MEAN TO HAVE YOU SOMEDAY! I'LL BATTER MY WAY THROUGH LIFE AND GET WHAT I WANT BY HOOK OR CROOK! TO THE VICTOR BELONGS THE SPOILS... JUST WAIT AND SEE!


THE BITTER INFLUENCE OF DREW'S WORDS WORE OFF AS COLLEGE AND STUDIES ABSORBED ALL OF RANDY'S ATTENTIONS AND OF MINE!
RANDY, I'VE NEVER BEEN SO COMPLETELY HAPPY IN MY LIFE! HAVE YOU SELECTED YOUR MAJORS YET?
YEP! I JUST TURNED IN MY PREFERENCE LIST TO THE DEAN... I'M GOING TO CONCENTRATE ON FINE ARTS! HOW ABOUT YOU?

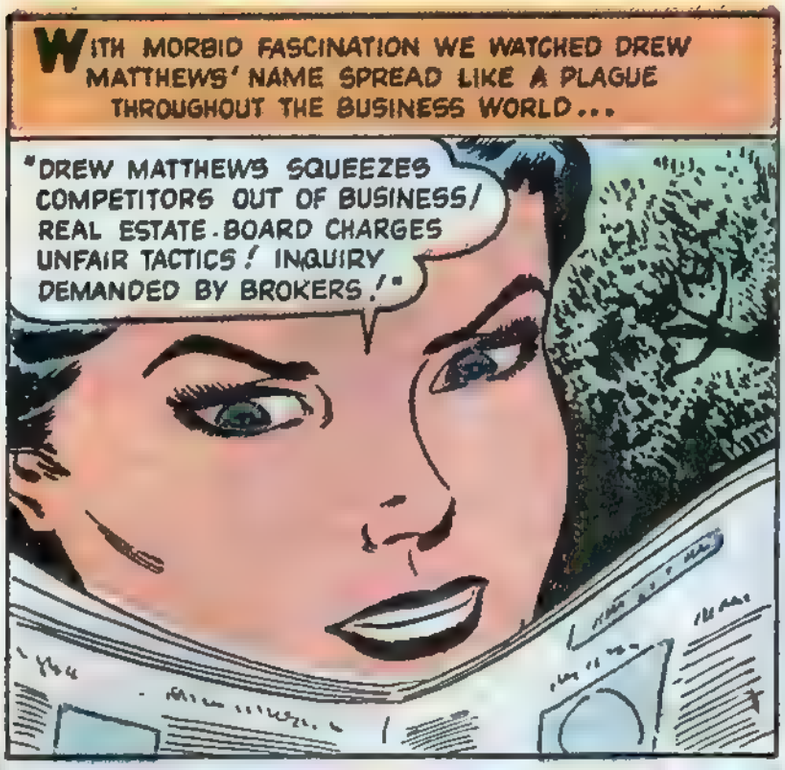

I PICKED SCULPTURE, RANDY... IT'S SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS LOVED! LET'S MEET AFTER CLASSES, HUH?
SWELL! WE'LL MAKE IT A TEAM, DIANE -- I'LL STUN THE WORLD WITH MASTERPIECES ON CANVAS AND YOU DO THE SAME WITH MARBLE! WHAT A DREAM!


WE MET AFTER SCHOOL TO COMPARE NOTES...
MY FIRST ASSIGNMENT INCLUDES YOU, RANDY! I'VE GOT TO MAKE A PLASTER CAST OF A FACE ... SORT OF A DEATH MASK, YOU KNOW! YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY FIRST VICTIM!
WRONG NUMBER, MISS NORTON! DEATH MASKS ARE OUT OF MY LINE!

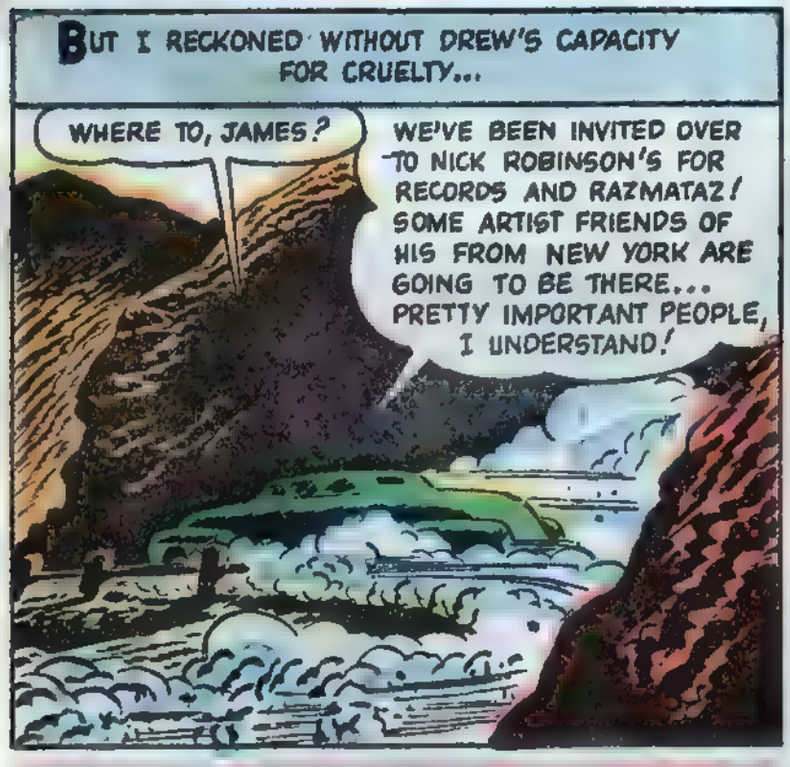
A YEAR OF COMPLETE HAPPINESS PASSED, AND THEN DREW'S NAME CAME UP TO HOVER LIKE AN OMINOUS SHADOW OVER US...
YOU LOOK AS THOUGH YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST, RANDY! WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?
IT'S DREW! I JUST GOT A LETTER FROM DAD! HE'S TERRIBLY UPSET ABOUT DREW!

DREW LEFT COLLEGE A YEAR AGO AND DAD GET HIM UP IN THE REAL ESTATE BUSINESS WITH A HEAVY INVESTMENT...

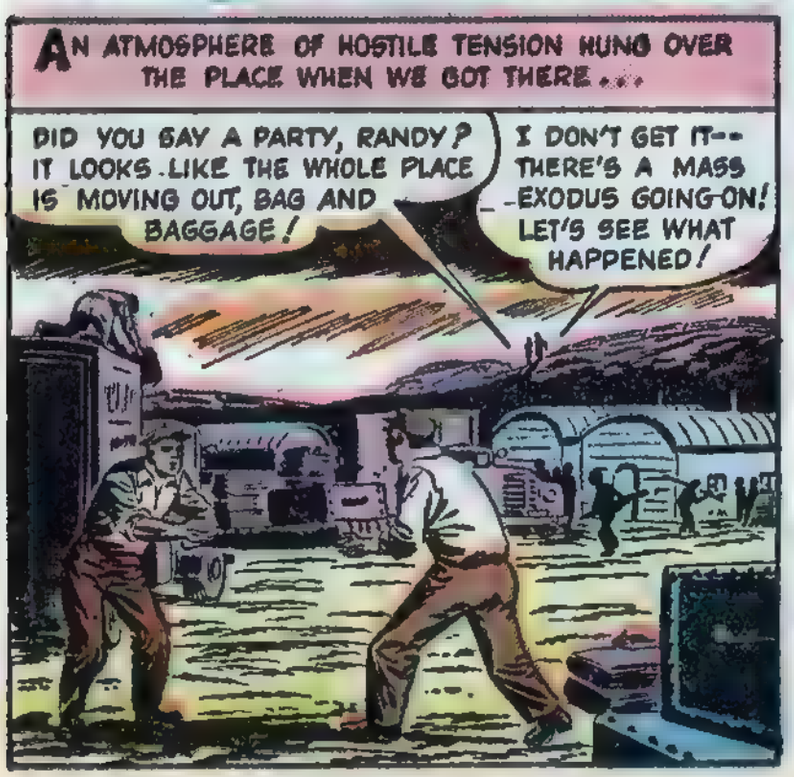
DREW MADE GOOD OVER NIGHT, BUT HIS RUTHLESS TACTICS AND CALLOUS BRUTALITY HAVE GIVEN HIM A TERRIBLE REPUTATION! IT'S BEGINNING TO BOOMERANG BACK ON DAD! HE'S SORRY HE BACKED HIM NOW, BUT THERE'S NO STOPPING DREW!


WITH MORBID FASCINATION WE WATCHED DREW MATTHEWS' NAME SPREAD LIKE A PLAGUE THROUGHOUT THE BUSINESS WORLD...
"DREW MATTHEWS SQUEEZES COMPETITORS OUT OF BUSINESS/ REAL ESTATE BOARD CHARGES UNFAIR TACTICS! INQUIRY DEMANDED BY BROKERS!"

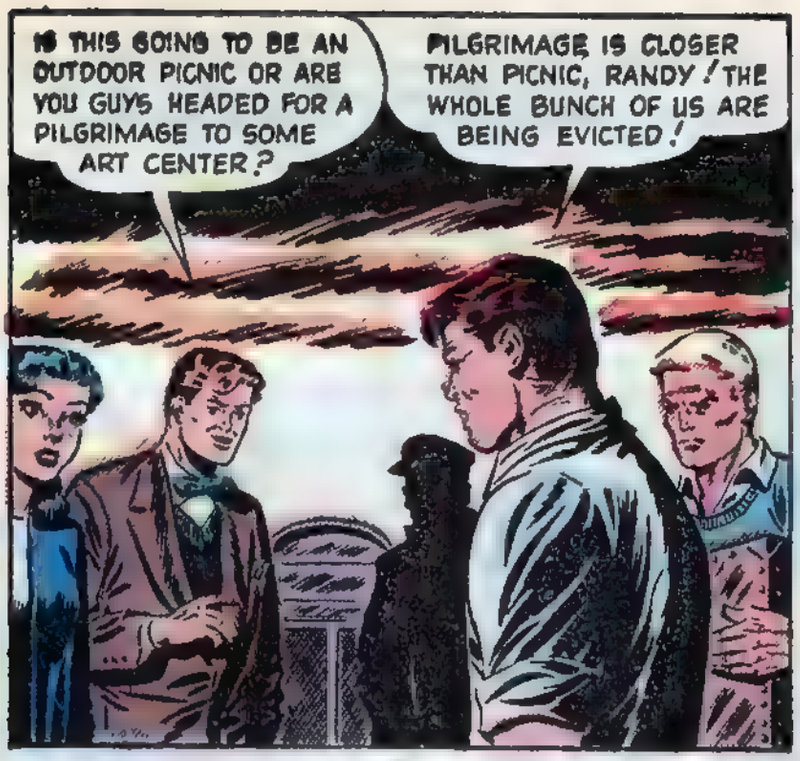
INSTINCTIVELY I KNEW WHAT WAS DRIVING DREW TO COMPLETE TYRANNY! IT WAS ME... IT WAS HIS WAY OF JUSTIFYING HIMSELF AND HIS OUTLOOK!
WHY IS HE DOING IT? WHY IS HE RUINING DAD'S NAME AND REPUTATION? WHY IS HE SO COMPLETELY RUTHLESS?
SOME MEN ARE LIKE THAT RANDY, BUT WHY SHOULD YOU WORRY ABOUT IT SO MUCH? IT DOESN'T AFFECT US IN ANY WAY!

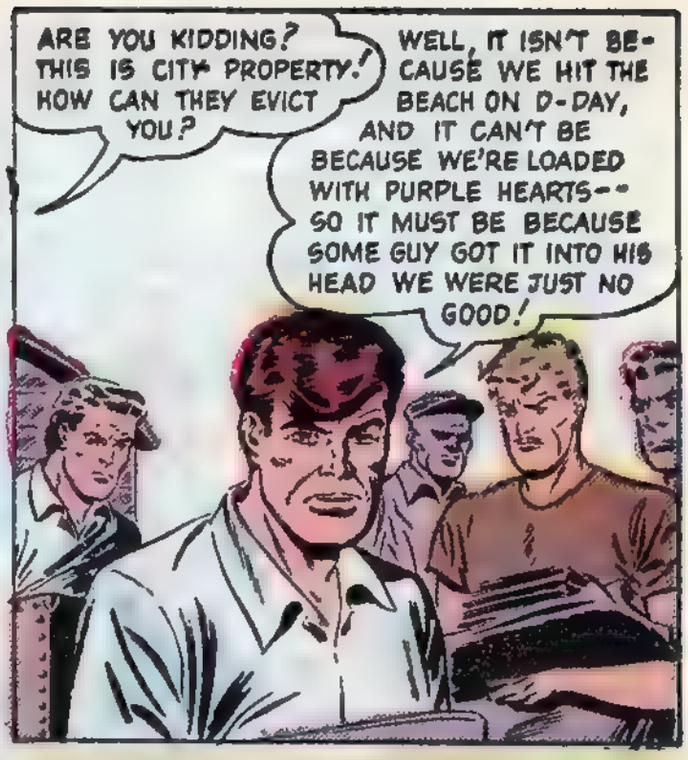

BUT I RECKONED WITHOUT DREW'S CAPACITY FOR CRUELTY...
WHERE TO, JAMES?
WE'VE BEEN INVITED OVER TO NICK ROBINSON'S FOR RECORDS AND RAZMATAZ! SOME ARTIST FRIENDS OF HIS FROM NEW YORK ARE GOING TO BE THERE... PRETTY IMPORTANT PEOPLE, I UNDERSTAND!

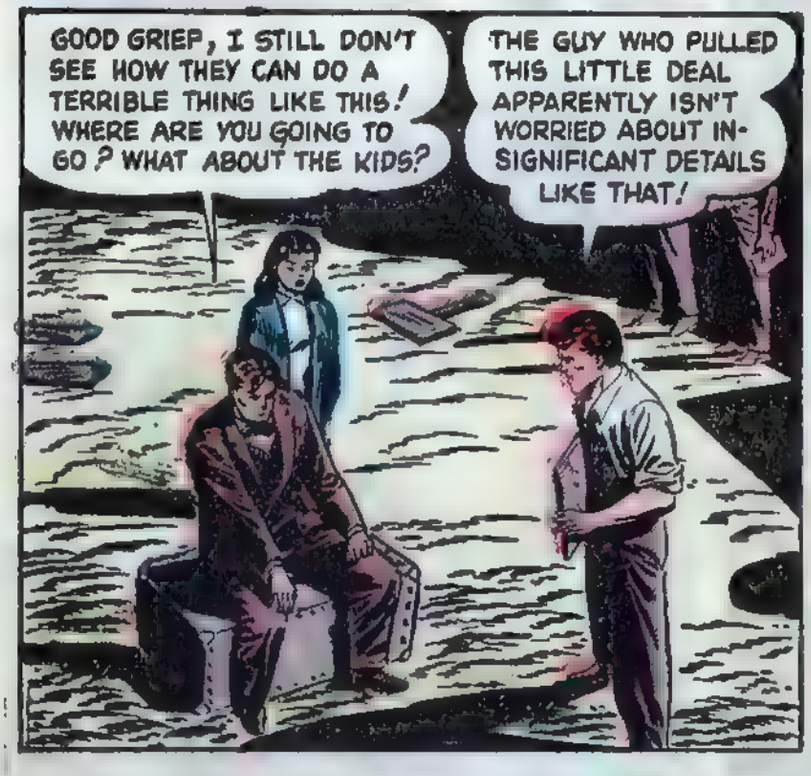
HOW FAR OUT DOES NICK LIVE, RANDY?
HE AND A BUNCH OF OTHER G.I.'S ARE LIVING IN QUONSETS ON A HUNK OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY OUT IN THE STICKS! IT'S A REGULAR LITTLE COMMUNITY!

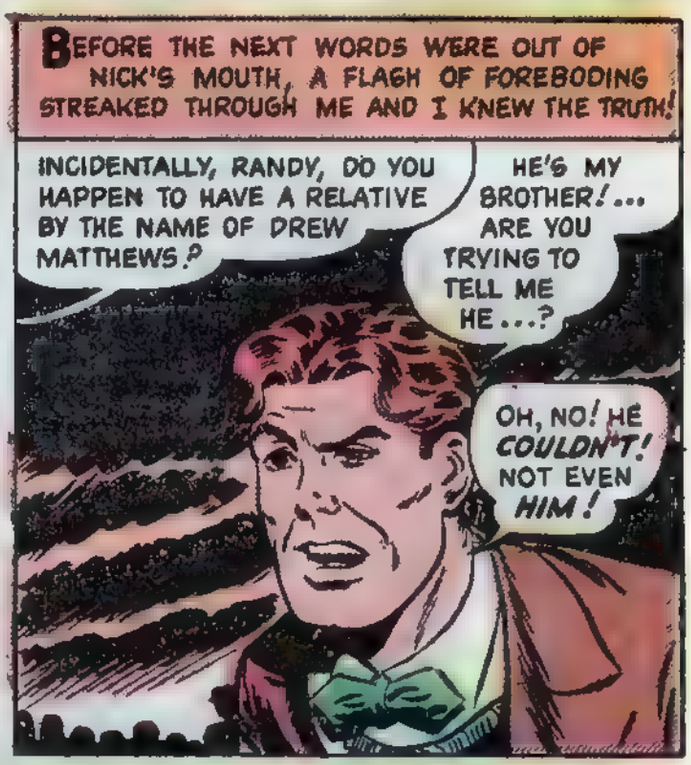

AN ATMOSPHERE OF HOSTILE TENSION HUNG OVER THE PLACE WHEN WE GOT THERE...
DID YOU SAY A PARTY, RANDY? IT LOOKS LIKE THE WHOLE PLACE IS MOVING OUT, BAG AND BAGGAGE!
I DON'T GET IT-- THERE'S A MASS EXODUS GOING ON! LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENED!

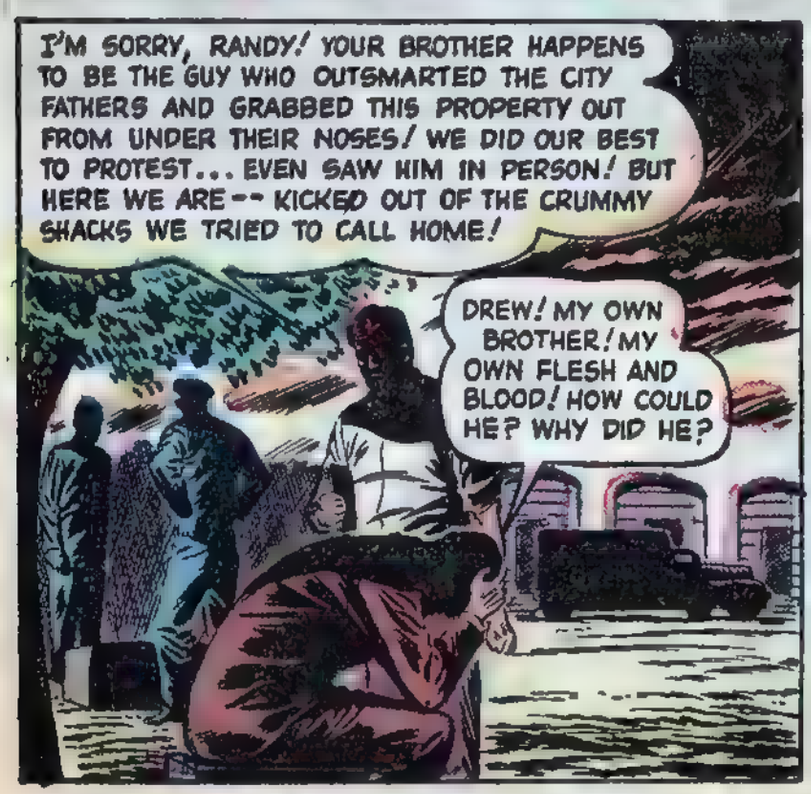
HEY, NICK! WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHY IS EVERYONE ON THE MOVE?

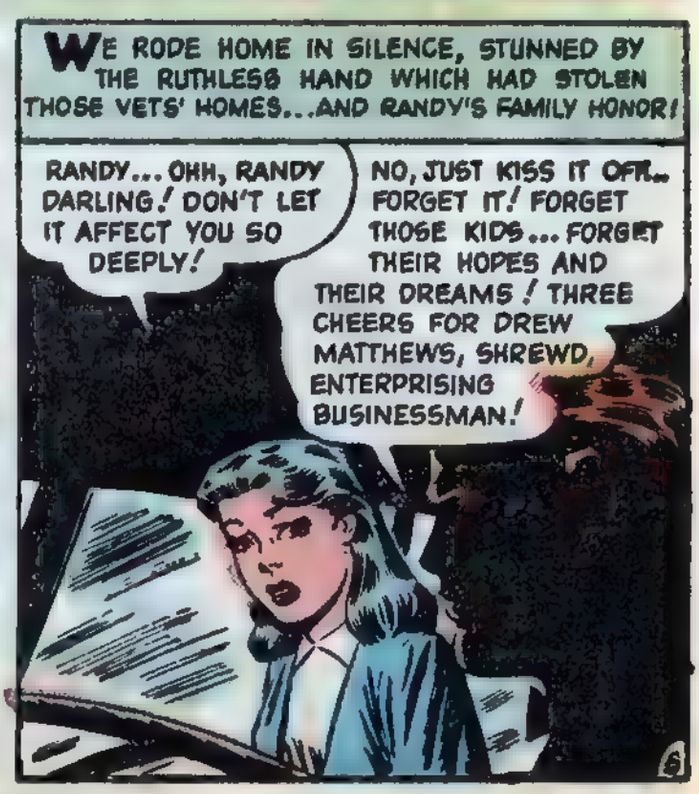

IS THIS GOING TO BE AN OUTDOOR PICNIC OR ARE YOU GUYS HEADED FOR A PILGRIMAGE TO SOME ART CENTER?
PILGRIMAGE IS CLOSER THAN PICNIC, RANDY! THE WHOLE BUNCH OF US ARE BEING EVICTED!

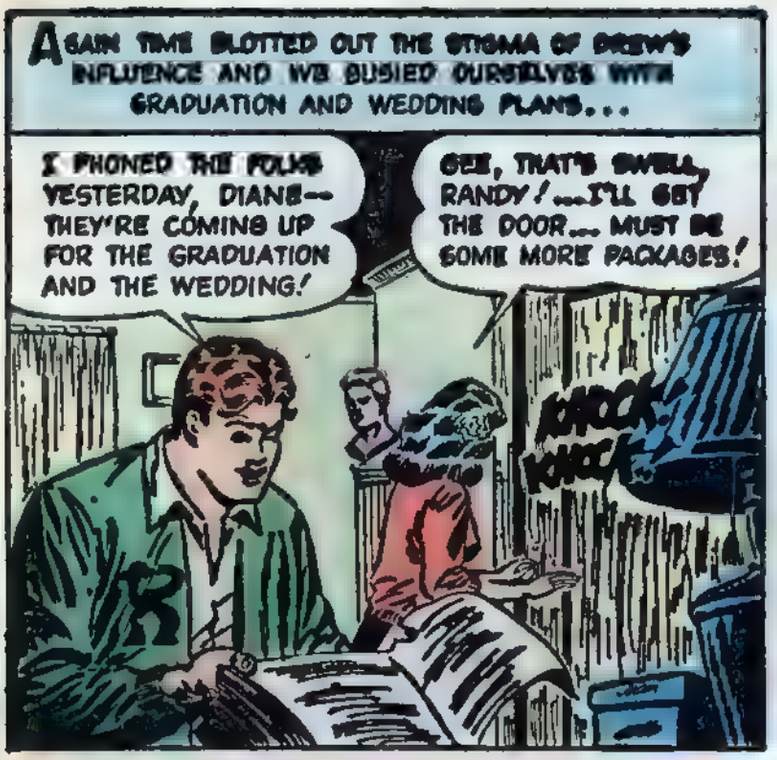

ARE YOU KIDDING? THIS IS CITY PROPERTY! HOW CAN THEY EVICT YOU?
WELL, IT ISN'T BECAUSE WE HIT THE BEACH ON D-DAY, AND IT CAN'T BE BECAUSE WE'RE LOADED WITH PURPLE HEARTS-- SO IT MUST BE BECAUSE SOME GUY GOT IT INTO HIS HEAD WE WERE JUST NO GOOD!

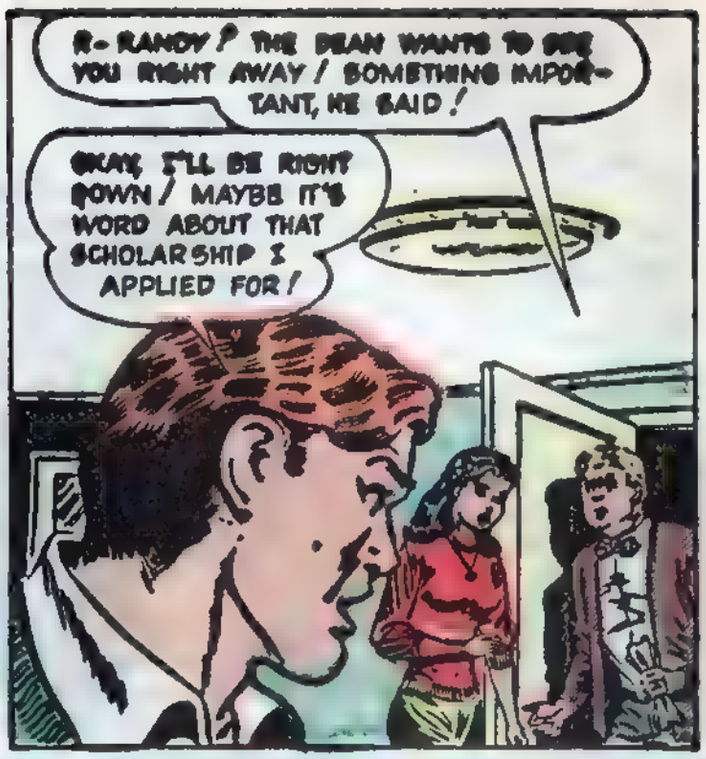

GOOD GRIEF, I STILL DON'T SEE HOW THEY CAN DO A TERRIBLE THING LIKE THIS! WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO GO? WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?
THE GUY WHO PULLED THIS LITTLE DEAL APPARENTLY ISN'T WORRIED ABOUT INSIGNIFICANT DETAILS LIKE THAT!


BEFORE THE NEXT WORDS WERE OUT OF NICK'S MOUTH, A FLASH OF FOREBODING STREAKED THROUGH ME AND I KNEW THE TRUTH!
INCIDENTALLY, RANDY, DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE A RELATIVE BY THE NAME OF DREW MATTHEWS?
HE'S MY BROTHER!... ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME HE...?
OH, NO! HE COULDN'T! NOT EVEN HIM!

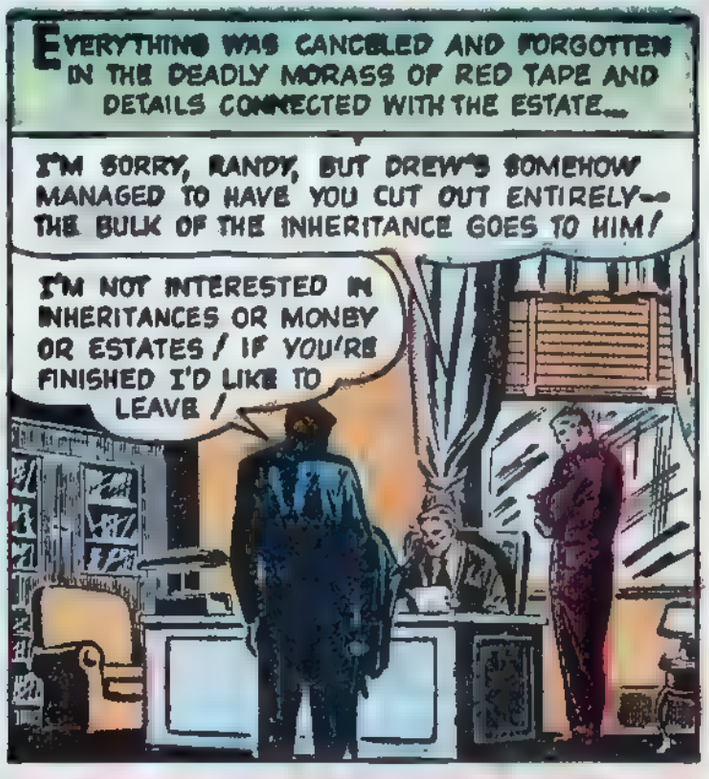

I'M SORRY, RANDY! YOUR BROTHER HAPPENS TO BE THE GUY WHO OUTSMARTED THE CITY FATHERS AND GRABBED THIS PROPERTY OUT FROM UNDER THEIR NOSES! WE DID OUR BEST TO PROTEST... EVEN SAW HIM IN PERSON! BUT HERE WE ARE -- KICKED OUT OF THE CRUMMY SHACKS WE TRIED TO CALL HOME!
DREW! MY OWN BROTHER! MY OWN FLESH AND BLOOD! HOW COULD HE? WHY DID HE?

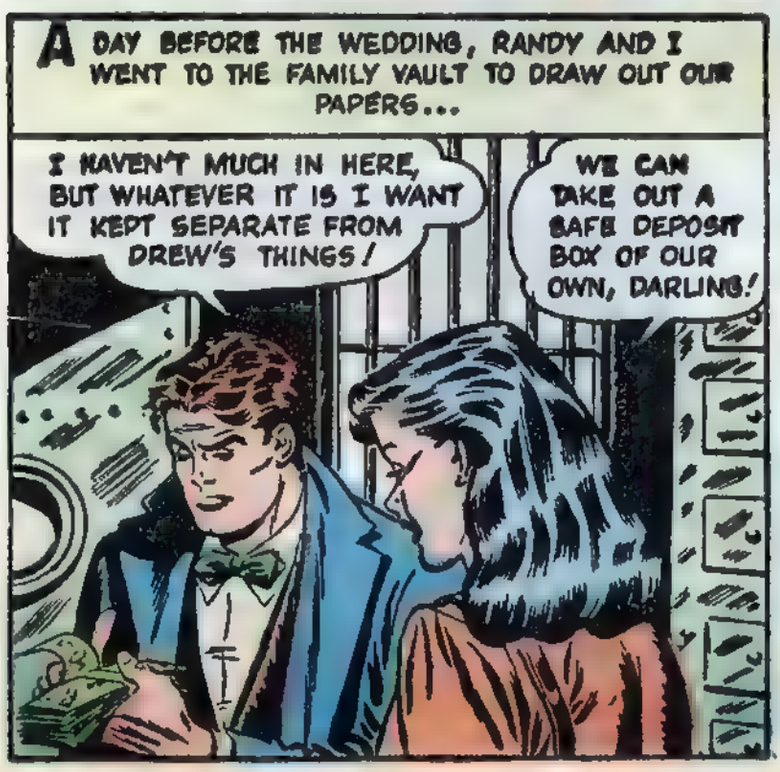

WE RODE HOME IN SILENCE, STUNNED BY THE RUTHLESS HAND WHICH HAD STOLEN THOSE VETS' HOMES...AND RANDY'S FAMILY HONOR!
RANDY... OHH, RANDY DARLING! DON'T LET IT AFFECT YOU SO DEEPLY!
NO, JUST KISS IT OFF... FORGET IT! FORGET THOSE KIDS... FORGET THEIR HOPES AND THEIR DREAMS! THREE CHEERS FOR DREW MATTHEWS, SHREWD, ENTERPRISING BUSINESSMAN!

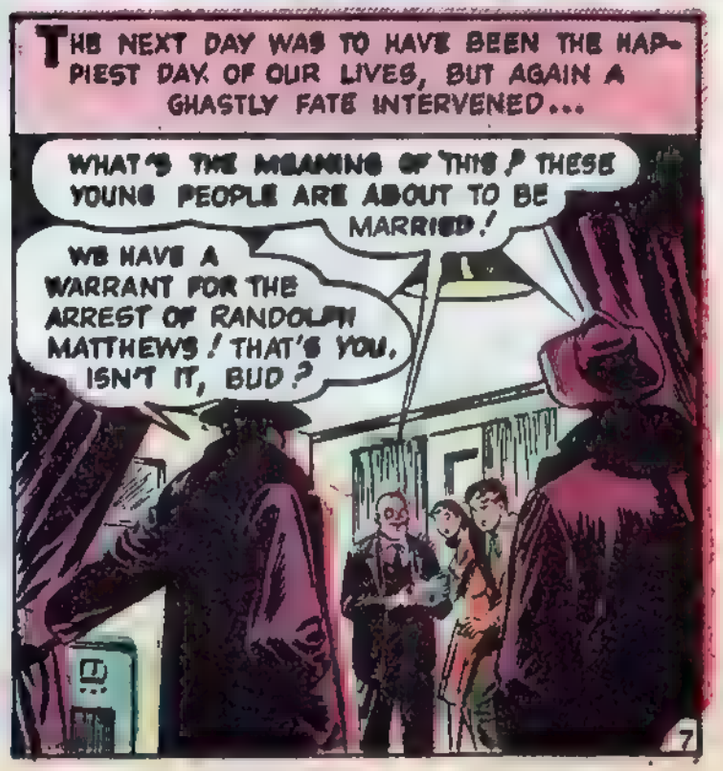

AGAIN TIME BLOTTED OUT THE STIGMA OF DREW'S INFLUENCE AND WE BUSIED OURSELVES WITH GRADUATION AND WEDDING PLANS...
I PHONED THE FOLKS YESTERDAY, DIANE-- THEY'RE COMING UP FOR THE GRADUATION AND THE WEDDING!
GEE, THAT'S SWELL, RANDY!...I'LL GET THE DOOR... MUST BE SOME MORE PACKAGES!
KNOCK KNOCK


R-RANDY? THE DEAN WANTS TO SEE YOU RIGHT AWAY! SOMETHING IMPORTANT, HE SAID!
OKAY, I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN! MAYBE IT'S WORD ABOUT THAT SCHOLARSHIP I APPLIED FOR!

HE CAME BACK A FEW MINUTES LATER, REELING UNSTEADILY, HIS HANDS SHAKING...
RANDY! WHAT IS IT? WHAT HAPPENED?
MOTHER... AND DAD! THEY WERE KILLED AT A RAILROAD CROSSING TEN MILES OUT OF BREWSTER! I... I CAN'T TALK ANY MORE, DIANE!


EVERYTHING WAS CANCELED AND FORGOTTEN IN THE DEADLY MORASS OF RED TAPE AND DETAILS CONNECTED WITH THE ESTATE...
I'M SORRY, RANDY, BUT DREW'S SOMEHOW MANAGED TO HAVE YOU CUT OUT ENTIRELY-- THE BULK OF THE INHERITANCE GOES TO HIM!
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN INHERITANCES OR MONEY OR ESTATES! IF YOU'RE FINISHED I'D LIKE TO LEAVE!


A DAY BEFORE THE WEDDING, RANDY AND I WENT TO THE FAMILY VAULT TO DRAW OUT OUR PAPERS...
I HAVEN'T MUCH IN HERE, BUT WHATEVER IT IS I WANT IT KEPT SEPARATE FROM DREW'S THINGS!
WE CAN TAKE OUT A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX OF OUR OWN, DARLING!


THE NEXT DAY WAS TO HAVE BEEN THE HAPPIEST DAY OF OUR LIVES, BUT AGAIN A GHASTLY FATE INTERVENED...
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? THESE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ABOUT TO BE MARRIED!
WE HAVE A WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF RANDOLPH MATTHEWS! THAT'S YOU, ISN'T IT, BUD?

I'LL NEVER FORGET THE UTTER HORROR OF THAT DAY, THE DRONING QUESTIONS, RANDY'S TORMENTED FACE...

I HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT THE CHARGES ARE! WHAT HAVE I DONE? WHAT CRIME HAVE I COMMITTED?, WHO IS CHARGING ME?

YOU'RE BEING HELD FOR ROBBERY, MR. MATTHEWS! YOUR BROTHER, DREW MATTHEWS, IS PRESSING CHARGES! BRING IN THAT BRIEFCASE, THOMPSON!

YOUR BROTHER IS CHARGING YOU WITH STEALING THESE NEGOTIABLE BONDS FROM HIS SAFE DEPOSIT BOX! IS THIS YOUR BRIEFCASE?

YES... YES, THE BRIEFCASE IS MINE, BUT I NEVER SAW THOSE BONDS BEFORE! THIS IS A COLD, BRUTAL FRAME-UP! WHY SHOULD I STEAL HIS FILTHY MONEY?

COLDLY AND METHODICALLY THEY BUILT UP A PERFECT CASE AGAINST RANDY AS I WATCHED IN HELPLESS HORROR...

WAIT FOR ME, DIANE! THEY CAN'T HOLD ME HERE FOREVER!

I'LL WAIT, DARLING... WE'LL FIGHT THIS THING OUT TO THE END! I LOVE YOU, RANDY!

DAYS PASSED AND MY LAWYER COULD OFFER NO HOPE...

THEY'VE BUILT UP AN AIR-TIGHT CASE AGAINST HIM, MISS NORTON! IF WHAT YOU SAY IS THE TRUTH, THEN THIS IS THE MOST FANTASTIC FRAME-UP I'VE EVER HEARD OF!

AND YOU SAY HE'LL GET A MINIMUM OF TEN YEARS ON CONVICTION? OH, HOW HORRIBLE! THERE MUST BE *SOMETHING* I CAN DO... THERE MUST BE!

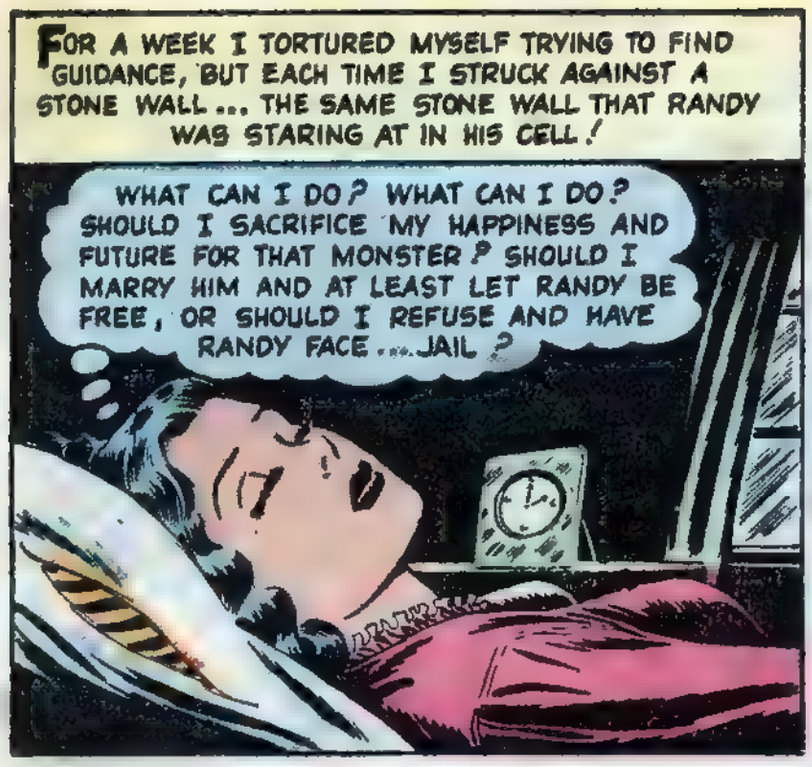
FEDERAL COURT

THERE *WAS* SOMETHING! IT WAS SUGGESTED BY DREW MATTHEWS HIMSELF...

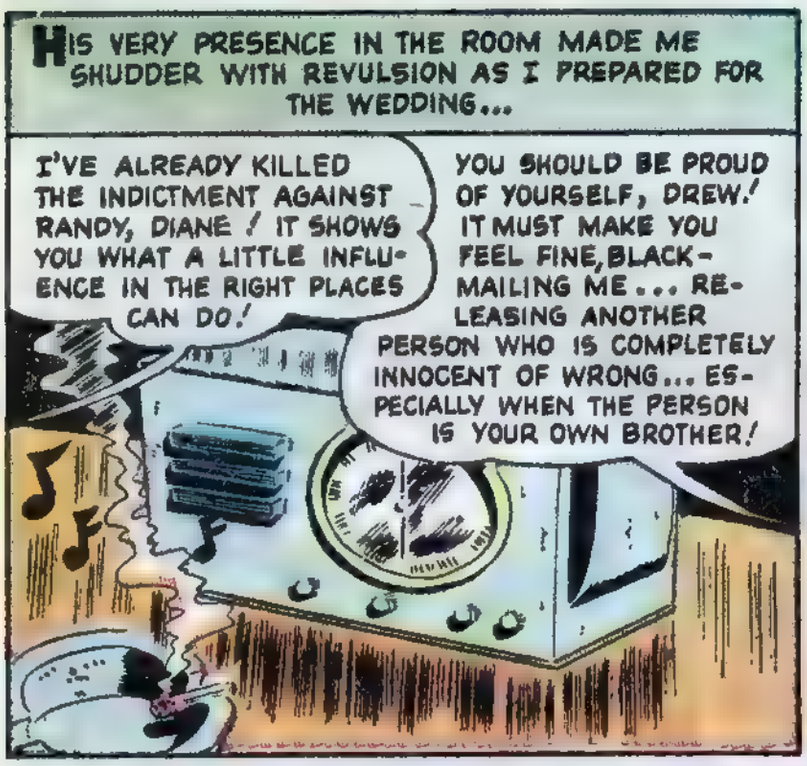
LET'S NOT BEAT AROUND THE BUSH, DIANE -- I'LL BE BLUNT! IF YOU'LL AGREE TO MARRY ME I'LL DROP THE CHARGES AGAINST RANDY! IF NOT, I'LL PRESS THE CASE AND HE'LL GO AWAY FOR A LONG TIME!

YOU'RE COLD AND RUTHLESS, DREW! YOU'D MARRY ME EVEN KNOWING HOW INTENSELY I HATE YOU, WOULDN'T YOU? YOU'D RUIN YOUR OWN BROTHER JUST TO JUSTIFY YOUR BRUTAL NATURE!

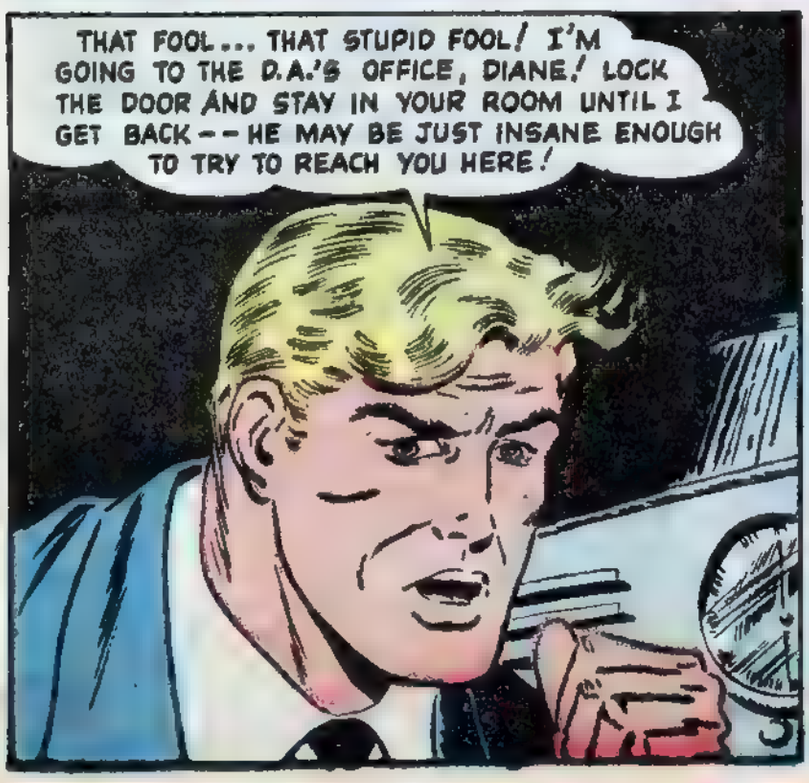
IT'S UP TO YOU, DIANE! IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER YOU LOVE ME OR NOT -- I LOVE YOU, THAT'S WHAT MATTERS! LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU DECIDE!

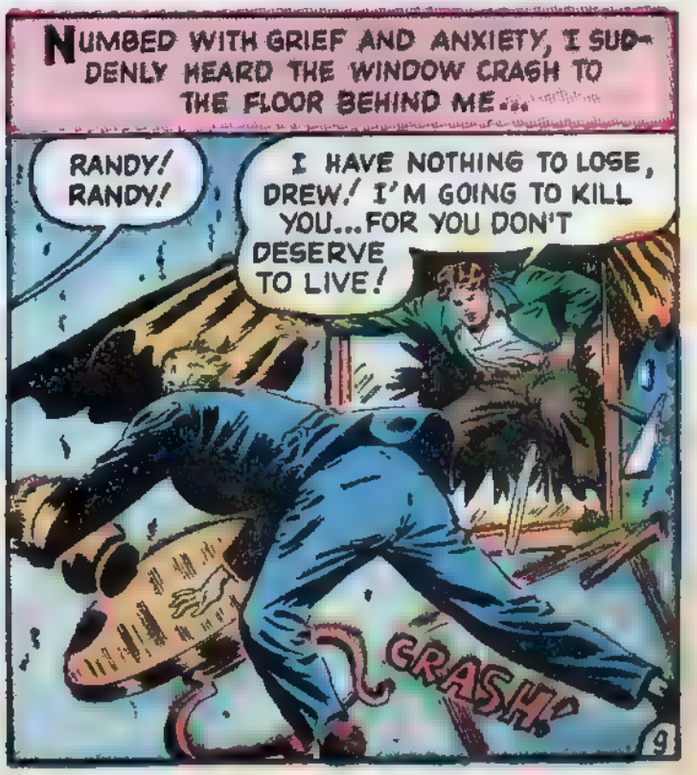

FOR A WEEK I TORTURED MYSELF TRYING TO FIND GUIDANCE, BUT EACH TIME I STRUCK AGAINST A STONE WALL... THE SAME STONE WALL THAT RANDY WAS STARING AT IN HIS CELL!
WHAT CAN I DO? WHAT CAN I DO? SHOULD I SACRIFICE MY HAPPINESS AND FUTURE FOR THAT MONSTER? SHOULD I MARRY HIM AND AT LEAST LET RANDY BE FREE, OR SHOULD I REFUSE AND HAVE RANDY FACE ....JAIL?

BY MORNING MY MIND WAS MADE UP...
I'M GOING TO MARRY YOU, DREW, BECAUSE I LOVE RANDY SO DEEPLY... SO ETERNALLY! I WARN YOU -- YOUR LIFE WITH ME WILL BEAR NOTHING BUT HATRED AND CONTEMPT! I DESPISE YOU!
AND I LOVE YOU! RANDY WILL BE FREE SHORTLY AFTER OUR MARRIAGE! I'LL SEE TO THAT PERSONALLY!


HIS VERY PRESENCE IN THE ROOM MADE ME SHUDDER WITH REVULSION AS I PREPARED FOR THE WEDDING...
I'VE ALREADY KILLED THE INDICTMENT AGAINST RANDY, DIANE! IT SHOWS YOU WHAT A LITTLE INFLUENCE IN THE RIGHT PLACES CAN DO!
YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOURSELF, DREW! IT MUST MAKE YOU FEEL FINE, BLACKMAILING ME... RELEASING ANOTHER PERSON WHO IS COMPLETELY INNOCENT OF WRONG... ESPECIALLY WHEN THE PERSON IS YOUR OWN BROTHER!

SUDDENLY THE MUSIC STOPPED AND MY HEART STOPPED WITH IT AS THE RADIO BLARED OUT A NEWS DISPATCH...
ATTENTION! RANDOLPH MATTHEWS, CURRENTLY UNDER INDICTMENT FOR ROBBERY, HAS ESCAPED FROM THE COUNTY PRISON! IT IS IRONIC THAT THE ESCAPE WAS MADE JUST TEN MINUTES BEFORE THE INDICTMENT AGAINST HIM WAS TO BE WITHDRAWN!
WH...??!! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!


THAT FOOL... THAT STUPID FOOL! I'M GOING TO THE D.A.'S OFFICE, DIANE! LOCK THE DOOR AND STAY IN YOUR ROOM UNTIL I GET BACK -- HE MAY BE JUST INSANE ENOUGH TO TRY TO REACH YOU HERE!


NUMBED WITH GRIEF AND ANXIETY, I SUDDENLY HEARD THE WINDOW CRASH TO THE FLOOR BEHIND ME...
RANDY! RANDY!
I HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE, DREW! I'M GOING TO KILL YOU...FOR YOU DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE!
CRASH!
9

I WATCHED IN TERROR AS THEY TORE AT EACH OTHER LIKE WILD ANIMALS IN A JUNGLE! I WATCHED, SENSING THAT ONLY ONE OF THEM COULD FINISH ALIVE...

WHUNG

TALK, YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING RODENT! TALK, AND ADMIT THAT YOU FRAMED ME! DO YOU HEAR ME, DREW? TALK... TALK... TALK!

CRASH!

Y-YES, I FRAMED YOU! I PUT THOSE PAPERS IN YOUR BRIEFCASE MYSELF! YES... AND I'D DO IT AGAIN FOR DIANE! YOU'RE... CHOKING ME! STOP... STOP! AAAARGH!

I THOUGHT IT HAD ENDED WHEN THE POLICE CAME IN, BUT SUDDENLY, BEFORE THEY COULD STOP HIM...

LET GO OF ME! IF I CAN'T HAVE DIANE, NOBODY WILL! STAND STILL, DIANE -- WE'RE GOING TOGETHER!

GRAB HIM! HE'S GONE INSANE!

AGAIN FATE STEPPED INTO MY LIFE AS DREW APPROACHED, KNIFE UPRAISED, AND SUDDENLY...

LOOK OUT! THE STATUE IS FALLING... OHHHH!

CRASH!

AAARGH!

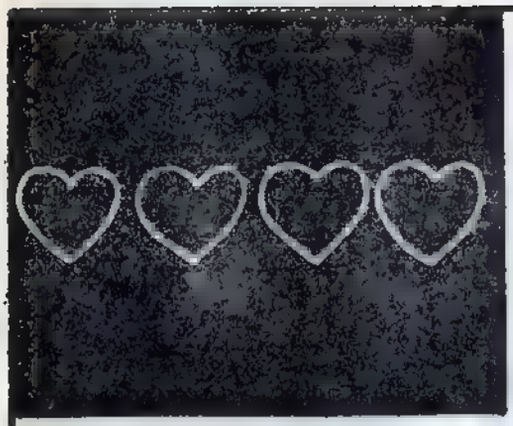
10

IN A SENSE, HE DIED BY MY OWN HAND, FOR IT WAS I WHO HAD CARVED THE STATUE FROM SOLID MARBLE...AND SO THE PAST WAS WASHED AWAY AND THE FUTURE LAY SHINING BEFORE US...

HE WAS TWISTED AND BITTER, BUT ALL THE BAD HE DID WAS DONE BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE FOR YOU! BUT FOR A QUIRK OF FATE, THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN *ME* UNDER THE STATUE!

NO, RANDY, YOU'RE WRONG! THERE WAS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU THAT NOTHING COULD CHANGE... IT WAS A DIFFERENCE OF GOODNESS AND EVIL! THAT'S WHY I CHOSE YOU -- AND I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU!

The End



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One day, the two boys quarrelled over the location of a site for their proposed city of Rome. Romulus set up the boundaries on the site where he and his brother were cast ashore years before. Remus did not like the location and made fun of the boundary wall set up by Romulus and leaped over it. In heated anger, Romulus struck and slew his brother and immediately regretted it.

Some time later after the city of Rome was started, Romulus was holding a review of his army when suddenly the skies grew dark and a storm fell upon them. The people fled in terror. When the storm was over and the people returned, Romulus was not to be found. The belief of the people was that during the darkness, thunder and lightning of the storm, Romulus' father Mars, carried him off to the dwelling place of the gods.

During 1929, on the anniversary of the founding of Rome, Italy issued a set of 20 stamps in commemoration of the event. One of the main designs in the set was a picture of the she wolf suckling Romulus and Remus.

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Can I Mend my BROKEN Romance

6431

IN OUR LAST ISSUE WE DRAMATIZED THE PROBLEM OF E___R___OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, WHOSE BOY FRIEND FELT THAT THEY BOTH SHOULD DATE OTHER PEOPLE WHILE HE WAS AWAY AT SCHOOL! S_____ R_____, OF DALLAS, TEXAS, SAYS...

"I THINK YOUR BOY FRIEND BOB IS RIGHT! YOU'RE PRETTY YOUNG STILL, AND YOU SHOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE WHAT OTHER BOYS ARE LIKE...

ARE YOU GOING TO THE PROM FRIDAY, ESTHER?

OR ARE YOU GOING TO SIT AT HOME AND WRITE TO THAT BIG FLAME OF YOURS?

OH! I'M GOING! I WOULDN'T MISS THE PROM FOR ANYTHING!

"YOU MAY FIND YOURSELF WISHING YOU WERE WITH BOB! BUT IF YOU DO, THAT WILL HELP YOU TO KNOW WHETHER YOU REALLY LOVE HIM OR NOT! AND WHILE YOU'RE FINDING OUT THAT IMPORTANT FACT, HAVE A GOOD TIME!"

A LETTER WE RECEIVED RECENTLY FROM S___ F_____ OF WEBSTER GROVE, MISSOURI, RELATES A PROBLEM WHICH YOU MAY HAVE EXPERIENCED! SHE WRITES: "ONE NIGHT JACK, MY FIANCÉ, AND I HAD A QUARREL...

"IT WAS JUST A TRIVIAL LITTLE INCIDENT AND YET IT CREATED THE SITUATION WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE WRECKED MY ROMANCE...

JACK, DID YOU ONLY LEAVE THAT GIRL FORTY CENTS? I THINK THAT'S TERRIBLE!

LISTEN, HONEY, PAYING THE BILLS IS MY DEPARTMENT!

BUT, JACK, I THINK IT'S CHEAP TO LEAVE SUCH A SMALL TIP! REALLY, YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED!

LET'S NOT ARGUE ABOUT THIS, HUH, SALLY? I LEFT WHAT I CONSIDERED AN ADEQUATE TIP! NOW--WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

I DON'T KNOW IF I WANT TO GO ANYWHERE WITH YOU IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LISTEN TO MY OPINION!

OH--FOR PETE'S SAKE! ALL RIGHT THEN--WE WON'T GO ANYWHERE! GOOD NIGHT!

"AT FIRST I WAS FURIOUS AT HIM FOR LEAVING ME LIKE THAT! AND THEN I GOT TO THINKING... IT HAD BEEN AN AWFULLY SILLY THING TO START ARGUING ABOUT!"

THINGS HAVE BEEN VERY COOL BETWEEN US SINCE THEN! JACK SEEMS DETERMINED TO SHOW ME WHO'S BOSS... BUT I WONDER IF HE STILL LOVES ME!

S___ F_____ IS OBVIOUSLY CONFUSED BY HER ROMANTIC PROBLEM... DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS? DO YOU THINK SHE CAN MEND HER BROKEN ROMANCE?

WRITE TO:

MY OWN ROMANCE

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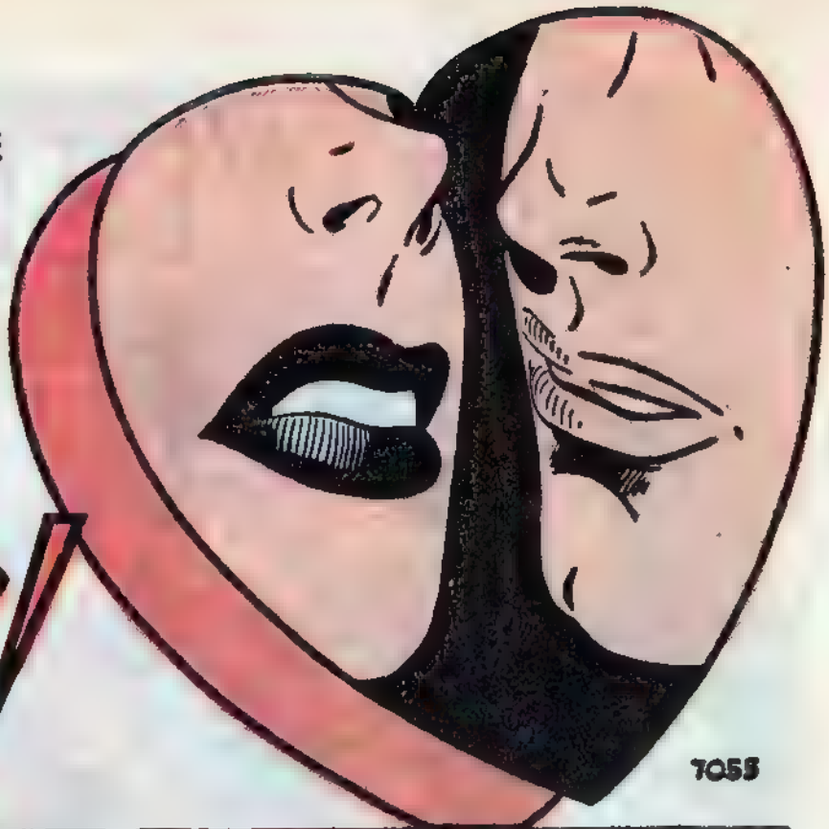
I LEARNED, THE HARD WAY, THAT THERE IS SOMETHING MUCH WORSE THAN...

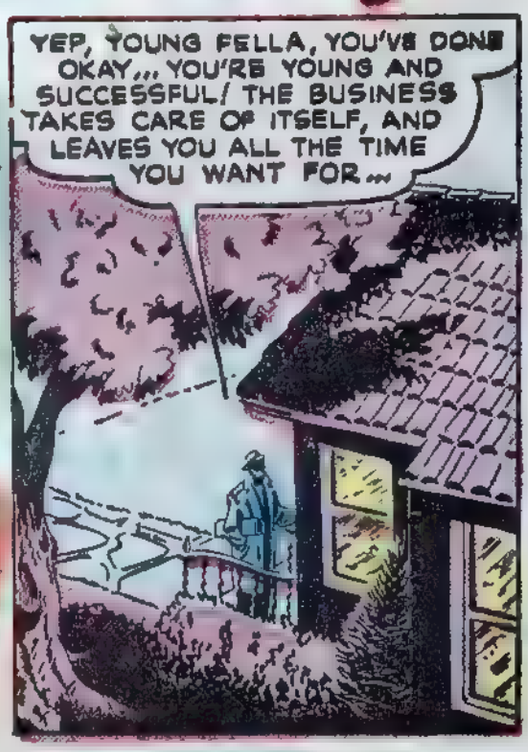
TOO FEW KISSES!



7055

I GUESS I'M A GUY WHO'S BEEN PRETTY LUCKY! AT 27 I HAD MY HEALTH, WASN'T BAD LOOKING, AND I WAS THE HEAD OF MY OWN COMPANY, THE DOUGLAS SHERRY GARAGES...

YEP, YOUNG FELLA, YOU'VE DONE OKAY... YOU'RE YOUNG AND SUCCESSFUL! THE BUSINESS TAKES CARE OF ITSELF, AND LEAVES YOU ALL THE TIME YOU WANT FOR...

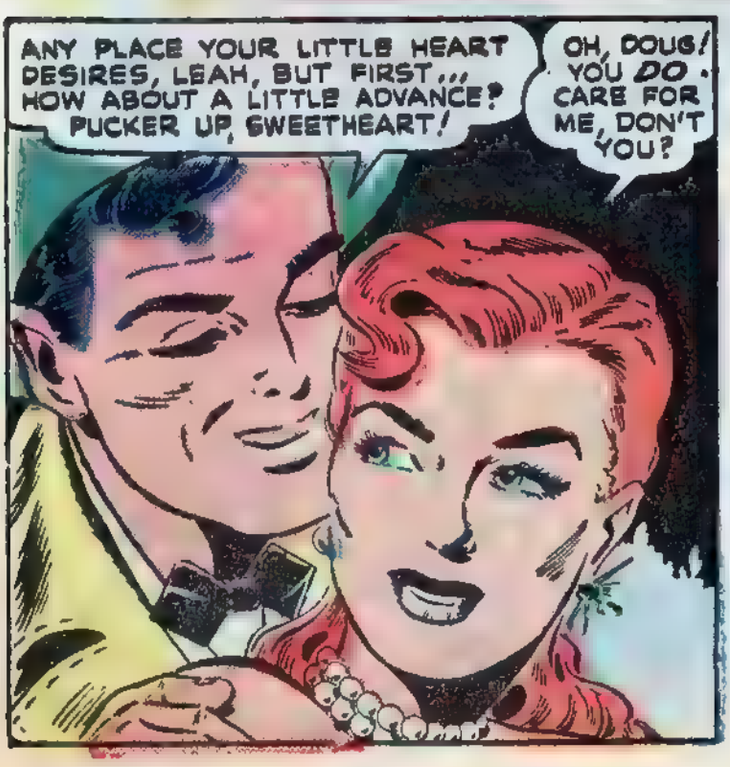


...GIRLS!... HI YA, BEAUTIFUL!

HELLO, DOUG! I'M ALL READY... WHERE ARE WE GOING?

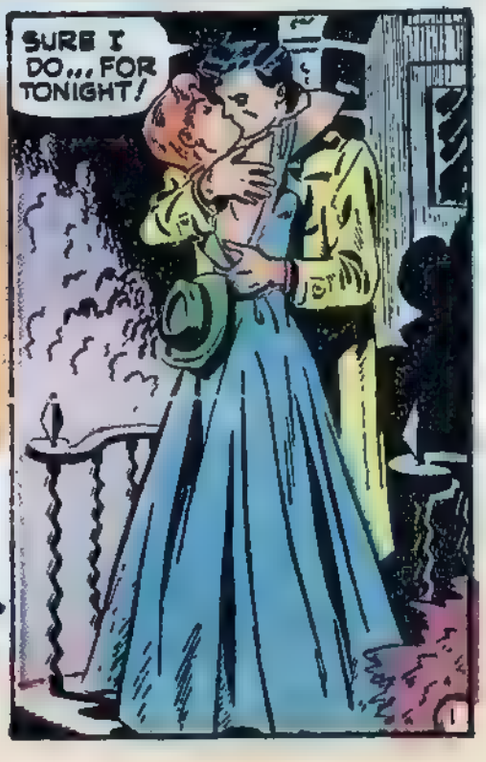
ANY PLACE YOUR LITTLE HEART DESIRES, LEAH, BUT FIRST... HOW ABOUT A LITTLE ADVANCE? PUCKER UP, SWEETHEART!

OH, DOUG! YOU *DO* CARE FOR ME, DON'T YOU?



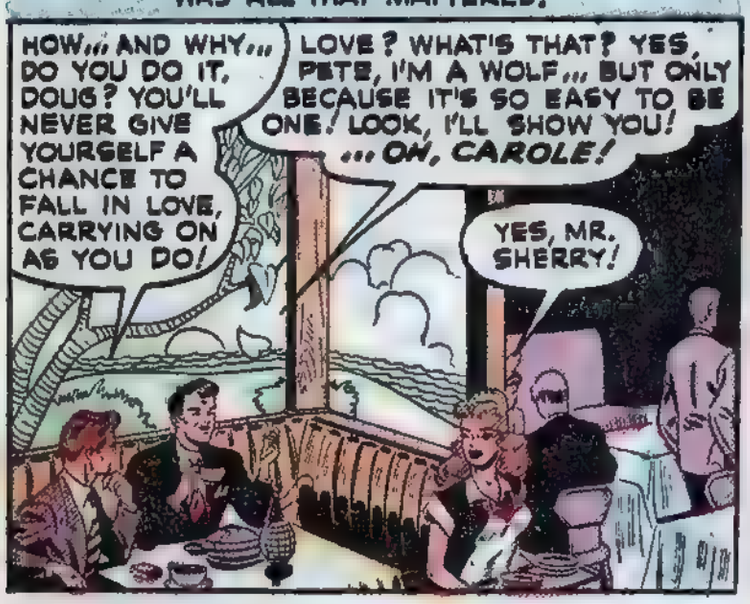
KISSES!! THAT'S WHAT I WANTED! UNLESS A GIRL KISSED ME ON OUR VERY FIRST DATE, I'D HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH HER! WITH MY MONEY AND MY LOOKS, IT WASN'T HARD TO GET THOSE KISSES, EITHER!

SURE I DO... FOR TONIGHT!

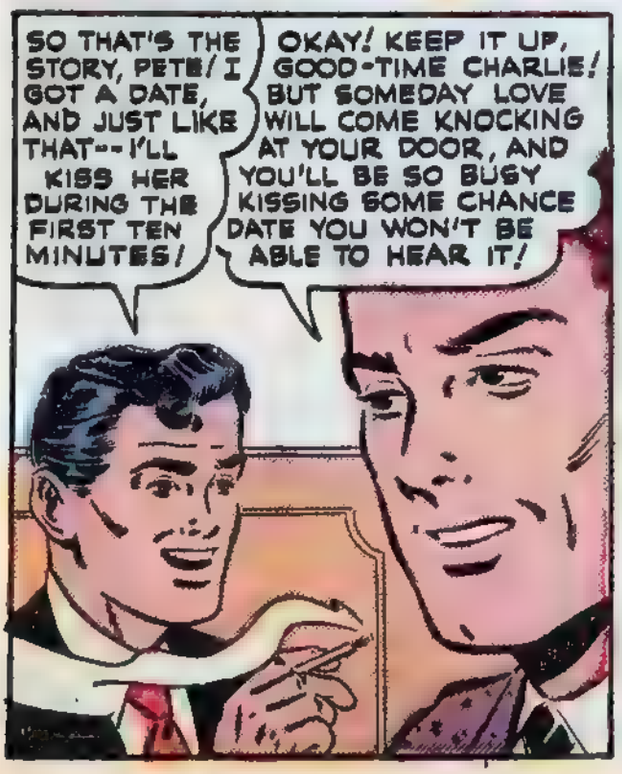


THAT NIGHT IT WAS LEAH... THE NEXT IT WAS DOLORES, THEN MAY! I PLAYED THEM ALL THE SAME WAY -- DATE 'EM, KISS 'EM AND LEAVE 'EM! I NEVER FELT AN AFFECTION FOR THESE GIRLS... FOR OLD DOUG WASN'T GETTING SERIOUS WITH ANY OF THEM! NOT ON YOUR LIFE!

IT WAS A HAPPY, CAREFREE LIFE I LED -- I HAD NO ONE TO ANSWER TO, SO I WENT ON MY MERRY WAY! SOME PEOPLE CALLED MY ROMANCING LOVELESS LOVE, BUT I DIDN'T CARE! I WAS YOUNG, THE GIRLS WERE BEAUTIFUL AND KISSABLE -- THAT WAS ALL THAT MATTERED!


HOW... AND WHY... DO YOU DO IT, DOUG? YOU'LL NEVER GIVE YOURSELF A CHANCE TO FALL IN LOVE, CARRYING ON AS YOU DO!
LOVE? WHAT'S THAT? YES, PETE, I'M A WOLF... BUT ONLY BECAUSE IT'S SO EASY TO BE ONE! LOOK, I'LL SHOW YOU!
... OH, CAROLE!
YES, MR. SHERRY!

CAROLE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TONIGHT?
OH, MR. SHERRY! YOU'RE ASKING ME OUT? OH, HOW EXCITING! WHY... NOTHING... NOTHING AT ALL! I'LL BE THROUGH HERE AT EIGHT! OH GOSH!


SO THAT'S THE STORY, PETE! I GOT A DATE, AND JUST LIKE THAT -- I'LL KISS HER DURING THE FIRST TEN MINUTES!
OKAY! KEEP IT UP, GOOD-TIME CHARLIE! BUT SOMEDAY LOVE WILL COME KNOCKING AT YOUR DOOR, AND YOU'LL BE SO BUSY KISSING SOME CHANCE DATE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HEAR IT!

PETE'S WARNING MEANT NOTHING TO ME! AS FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED, HE WAS JUST JEALOUS OF ME AND MY GOOD TIMES! BUT... SOMEONE DID KNOCK AT MY OFFICE DOOR THE NEXT MORNING...

THE DOOR OPENED AND A DREAM WALKED IN! IT WAS TALL, BLONDE AND TERRIFIC -- NEVER HAD I SEEN SUCH LOVELINESS! FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE I WAS ALMOST TONGUE-TIED...
YOU'RE... YOU'RE... WHY... HELLO... I'M...
YES, I KNOW -- YOU'RE DOUGLAS SHERRY! HOW DO YOU DO! MY NAME IS PRISCILLA ARMITAGE... MAY I SEE YOUR BOOKS?
I'LL SHOW THEM TO YOU, MISS ARMITAGE!
NO! ER... I MEAN... YOU'VE GOT OTHER THINGS TO DO, ANNIE! I'LL SHOW HER THE BOOKS!
BUT IT'S ONLY ROUTINE!... OH, VERY WELL, MR. SHERRY!
I NEVER THOUGHT A GIRL -- ANY GIRL -- COULD AFFECT ME THAT WAY! I FELT LIKE A GAWKY SCHOOLBOY IN THE PRESENCE OF THIS VISION! SHE, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS COOL AND EFFICIENT... IRRITATINGLY SO!
THERE! YOUR BOOKS ARE IN GOOD ORDER! BUT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO SHOW THEM TO ME -- YOU MUST BE A BUSY MAN!
ER... NOT THAT BUSY! SO YOU WORK FOR THE TAX BUREAU! WELL, WELL!... ER, A GIRL LIKE YOU... PRETTY... VERY PRETTY... SUCH A DULL JOB!
I DON'T FIND IT SO, MR. SHERRY... I'M SORRY YOU DISAPPROVE OF IT!
OH, BUT I DON'T -- NOT AT ALL! IT'S JUST THAT... WELL, YOU SHOULD GO OUT, ENJOY YOURSELF... GO ON DATES AND ALL! YOU DO, DON'T YOU? ER... WHAT I MEAN IS...
SHE GOT ME AS MIXED UP AS A JIGSAW PUZZLE! HER COOL BLUE EYES FIXED THEMSELVES ON MINE AND, FOR A MINUTE, SHE WAS KIND TO ME...
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I DON'T? I'M HUMAN, MR. SHERRY! BY THE WAY, WHAT'S ALL THIS LEADING TO... ARE YOU ABOUT TO ASK ME TO GO OUT WITH YOU?
WOULD YOU? I MEAN... I'D BE AWFULLY HONORED!
I LOOKED AT HER LIPS, FULL, RED AND LUSCIOUS! I HAD ALL I COULD DO TO KEEP FROM KISSING HER THEN! BUT I KNEW THAT TONIGHT... TONIGHT I WOULD PRESS THEM TO MINE AS I HAD DONE ALL THE OTHERS!
ALL RIGHT! SHALL WE SAY AT NINE?

I DON'T KNOW WHY SHE AFFECTED ME THAT WAY! I DO KNOW THAT SHE WAS EXCITING... EVEN TO AN EXPERIENCED JOE LIKE MYSELF! AND WHEN I PICKED HER UP THAT NIGHT, SHE WAS EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL AND THRILLING IN A SILVERY EVENING GOWN!

I THINK WE CAN DROP OUR BUSINESS GREETINGS FOR TONIGHT, DOUG! WILL YOU CALL ME PRISCILLA!

I'LL CALL YOU DARLING IF YOU'LL LET ME --YOU'RE THE LOVELIEST THING I'VE EVER SEEN, PRISCILLA!

I HAD THE TIME OF MY LIFE WITH HER THAT NIGHT! IT WAS, IN A SENSE, LIKE ESCORTING AN ANGEL! ALL EYES WERE ON US... OR RATHER... ON *HER!*

WE'VE GOT TO SEE A LOT OF EACH OTHER, PRISCILLA!

ISN'T IT A LITTLE TOO EARLY IN THE EVENING TO DECIDE WHETHER WE LIKE EACH OTHER ENOUGH FOR THAT?

THAT WAS SOMETHING DIFFERENT FOR ME... ALL MY OTHER DATES WERE ONLY TOO EAGER TO TAKE ME UP! THIS ONE WAS POLITE BUT HAD ME EATING OUT OF HER HAND--AND I LOVED IT!

WELL, WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER ALL EVENING, PRISCILLA -- HOW ABOUT TOMORROW NIGHT?

WELL...

THE MOON WAS HIGH... SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL... AND THERE WAS AN URGE IN MY HEART THAT COULD NOT BE DENIED! AS I HAD DONE COUNTLESS TIMES TO OTHERS, I REACHED OUT TO TAKE HER IN MY ARMS AND COLLECT MY KISS...

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL... AND SO KISSABLE...

DOUG! DON'T! STOP THAT!

FOR THE FIRST TIME A GIRL REFUSED MY KISS! AND FOR THE FIRST TIME MY FACE WAS SLAPPED... BUT HARD!

STOP IT, I SAID! TAKING ME OUT TO DINNER DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO KISS ME!

BUT... I... UGH!

SLAP

TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY, SHE RUSHED INSIDE AND SLAMMED THE DOOR IN MY FACE! I WAS FUMING! NEVER BEFORE HAD I BEEN TREATED THIS WAY AND I DIDN'T LIKE IT ONE BIT!

HUH! DOESN'T WANT TO BE KISSED--WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS, ANYWAY? JUST 'CAUSE SHE'S A LOOKER SHE THINKS SHE CAN BE CHOOSEY! HUH! THAT'S ENOUGH FOR HER... SHE CAN'T DO THAT TO ME... I'LL NEVER SEE HER AGAIN!

SLAM!

YES, I WAS DETERMINED NOT TO SEE HER AGAIN... BUT I DIDN'T RECKON WITH MY HEART! IT WOULDN'T LET ME REST... WOULDN'T LET ME WORK... I COULDN'T GET THAT AUSTERE COLD BEAUTY OUT OF MY MIND! I STAYED AWAY AS LONG AS I COULD... THEN I PHONED HER...

LOOK, PRISCILLA--I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO APOLOGIZE FOR SLAPPING MY FACE! HOW ABOUT...

SO SORRY, MR. SHERRY! (CLICK!)

SHE HUNG UP ON ME! I TURNED TO PETE, MY BEST FRIEND... HE LISTENED TO MY TROUBLES AND ADVISED ME...

SO THE BIG BAD WOLF IS STUNG, EH? MY... MY! DOUG, OLD BOY, YOU'RE PURSUING THE WRONG TACTICS--YOU CAN'T WIN A PRIZE LIKE THAT BY HITTING HER OVER THE HEAD! NOW LISTEN TO ME...

TELL ME WHAT TO DO, PETE--I'LL TRY ANYTHING! THAT GIRL'S DRIVING ME CRAZY!

FOLLOWING PETE'S ADVICE, I LOADED MYSELF DOWN WITH FLOWERS AND CANDY AND WAITED FOR HER OUTSIDE HER OFFICE! MY PRIDE HAD BEEN DENTED BUT WHO CARED ABOUT THAT?

GOSH! WHAT IF SHE DIDN'T COME TO WORK TODAY? SUPPOSE SHE'S SICK OR SOMETHING! OH, PRISCILLA, SHOW UP... *PLEASE!*

THEN... SHE CAME OUT! BUT THE MINUTE SHE SAW ME SHE BURST INTO LAUGHTER!

HA-HA-HA! OH, DOUG, YOU LOOK SO FUNNY! SO LIKE A LITTLE BOY! HA-HA-HA!

WELL, I'M A *BIG* BOY... AND IT'S NO LAUGHING MATTER...

PLEASE, PRISCILLA, LET ME TAKE YOU OUT AGAIN!

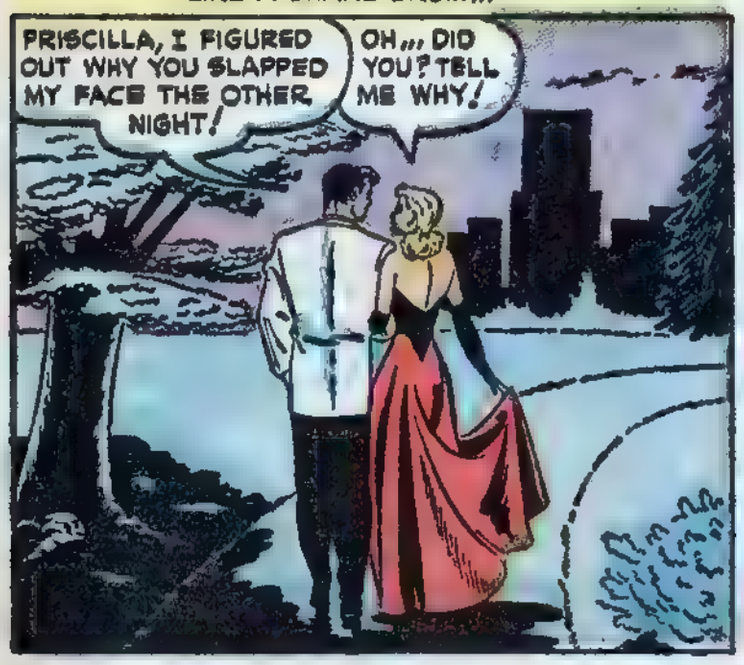
HMMM... WELL, I THINK YOU'VE LEARNED YOUR LESSON! BESIDES, I COULDN'T TURN YOU DOWN AFTER YOU WENT TO ALL THAT TROUBLE! ALL RIGHT, DOUG--YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A DATE!

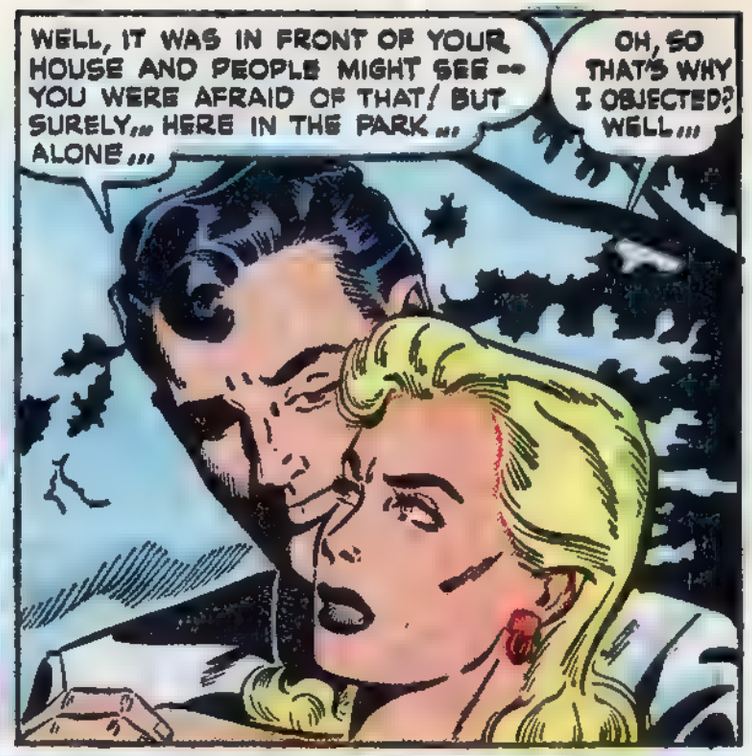
I WAS AS EXCITED AS A KID AT CHRISTMAS! ONCE MORE SHE WAS MORE ENCHANTING THAN EVER--MY BLOOD RUSHED TO MY HEAD EVERY TIME SHE SMILED AT ME!

I'VE HAD A WONDERFUL EVENING, DOUG! BUT CAN YOU TAKE ME HOME NOW?

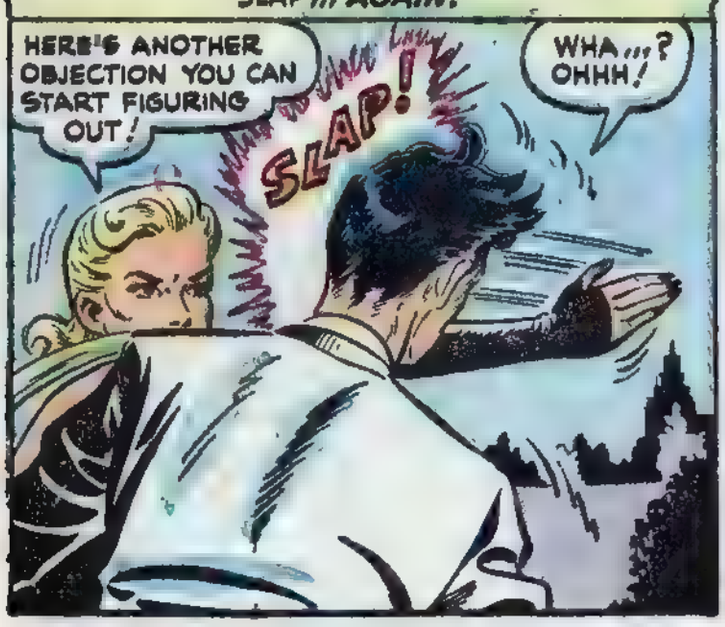
SURE! BUT... ER... HOW ABOUT WALKING THROUGH THE PARK ON THE WAY? I NEED A LITTLE AIR AFTER THAT NIGHT CLUB!

SHE CONSENTED AND WE WALKED SLOWLY THROUGH THE PARK/ I HELD HER HAND AND MY HEART BEAT LIKE A SNARE DRUM...

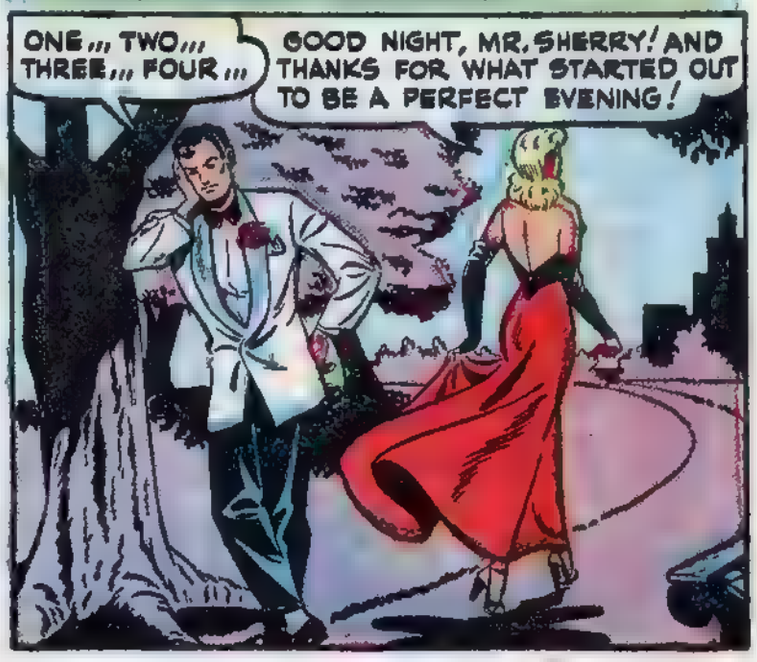



WELL, IT WAS IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE AND PEOPLE MIGHT SEE -- YOU WERE AFRAID OF THAT/ BUT SURELY... HERE IN THE PARK... ALONE...
OH, SO THAT'S WHY I OBJECTED? WELL...

I REACHED OUT FOR HER, CERTAIN THAT THIS TIME SHE WOULD LET ME HAVE HER LIPS... BUT INSTEAD OF A BURNING KISS I GOT A SIZZLING SLAP... *AGAIN!*



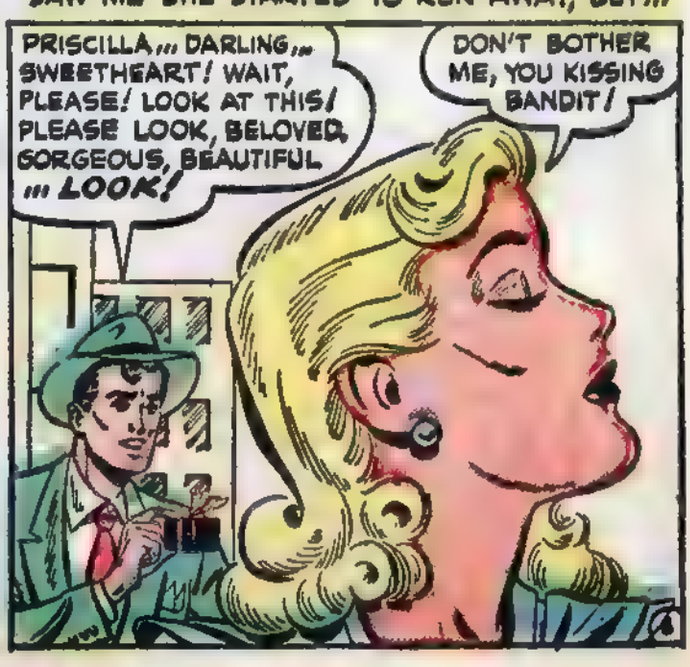
AND OFF SHE STORMED, LEAVING ME WITH MY MISERY, MY HURT PRIDE, AND ANOTHER VOW NOT TO SEE HER AGAIN!



BUT MY YEARNING FOR HER WAS AS STRONG AS EVER! I SENT HER FLOWERS... I PHONED HER... HAUNTED HER... BUT TO NO AVAIL! SHE'D HAVE NONE OF ME AND IT WAS DRIVING ME CRAZY! SO I CALLED ON PETE AGAIN...

DOUG, IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO/ IT'S A LAST, DESPERATE MEASURE FOR A WOLF LIKE YOU, BUT OTHER MEN HAVE TRIED IT AND FOUND IT VERY SUCCESSFUL/ THIS IS SURE TO WORK!
STOP STALLING, WILL YOU? TELL ME WHAT IT IS-- I'LL DO IT!

SO THAT AFTERNOON FOUND ME ONCE MORE WAITING FOR PRISCILLA/ THE MOMENT SHE SAW ME SHE STARTED TO RUN AWAY, BUT...


PRISCILLA... DARLING... SWEETHEART! WAIT, PLEASE! LOOK AT THIS/ PLEASE LOOK, BELOVED, GORGEOUS, BEAUTIFUL ... *LOOK!*
DON'T BOTHER ME, YOU KISSING BANDIT!

SHE TOOK ONE LOOK AT WHAT I HAD FOR HER AND THE ICY WALL SHE HAD BUILT AROUND HERSELF MELTED...

A RING/ AN ENGAGEMENT RING/ OH, DOUG, DO YOU MEAN IT?

OF COURSE I DO, DARLING! PRISCILLA, WILL YOU MARRY ME? I JUST CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU... KISSES OR NO KISSES/

AND THEN... DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT GIRL DID? THERE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT AND BEFORE SCORES OF PEOPLE, SHE... SHE...

OH, DOUG/ YES! YES! YES/

!

I WAS STILL DIZZY FROM THAT KISS BUT I MANAGED TO ASK HER HOW COME I GOT IT NOW... EVEN WITHOUT TRYING/

YOU SEE, DARLING, THERE'S A DIFFERENCE--I LOVE YOU AND I'M GOING TO MARRY YOU/ I'VE WANTED YOU TO KISS ME... BUT YOU WOULDN'T MARRY ME IF I KISSED EVERY MAN I WENT OUT WITH, WOULD YOU?

I... NEVER LOOKED AT IT THAT WAY... BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE/

THAT WAS TWO YEARS AGO/ IT'S A FUNNY THING, BUT MY YEN TO KISS ALL THE GIRLS IS GONE... THERE'RE ONLY TWO WHO GET ALL MY KISSES NOW! WAIT, I'LL SHOW YOU! *OH, MRS. SHERRY!*

YES, DARLING!

HERE ARE MY TWO GIRLS--BIG PRISCILLA AND LITTLE PRISCILLA/ DARLING, I WANT MY DAUGHTER TO GROW UP JUST LIKE YOU-- I DON'T WANT HER TO GROW UP TO BE KISSED BY EVERY TOM, DICK AND HARRY WHO DATES HER/

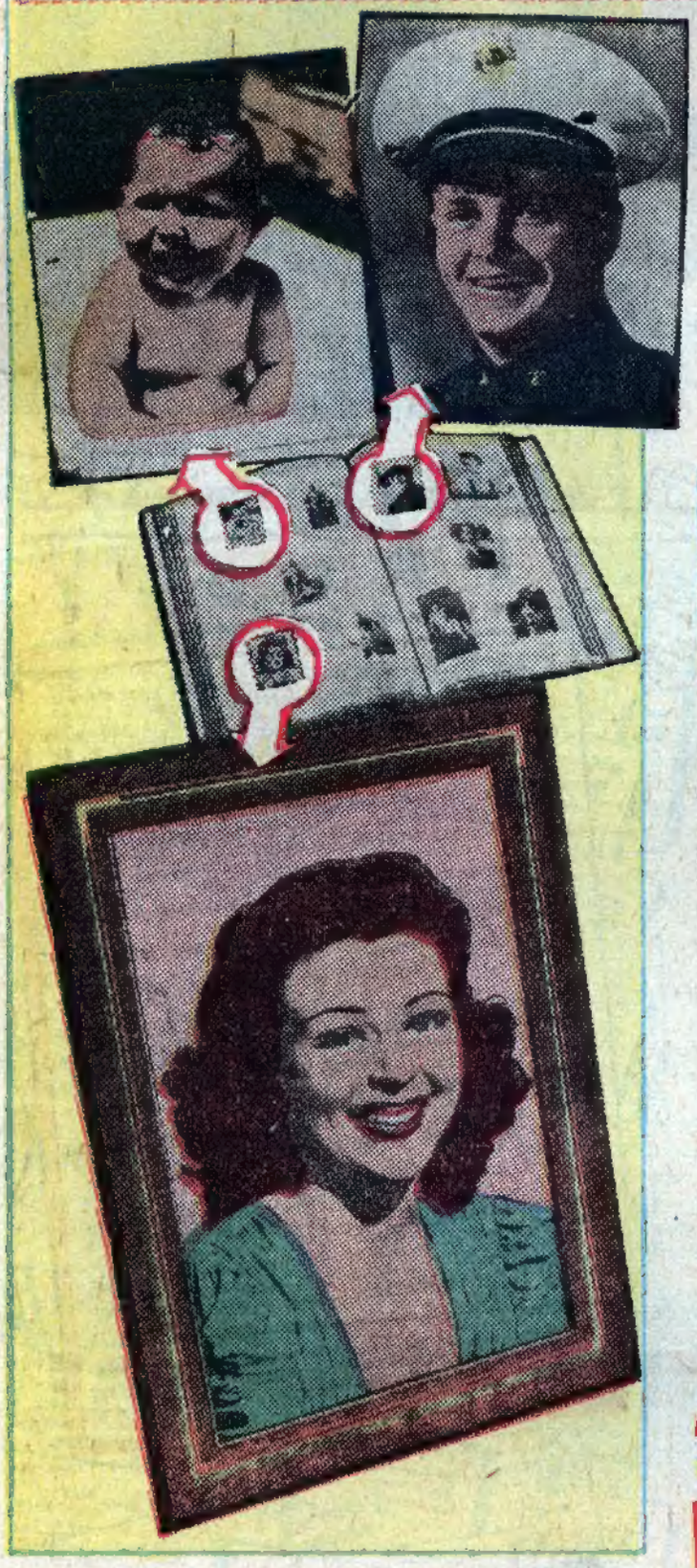
CAN THIS BE DOUG SHERRY SPEAKING?

MY DARLING/

YEP/ I LEARNED THAT A MAN'S GOT TO RESPECT THE GIRL HE DATES... IF HE EXPECTS HER TO SHOW RESPECT FOR HIM/ I USED TO BE A WOLF IN MAN'S CLOTHING -- NOW I'M A HAPPY HUSBAND IN MY LOVING WIFE'S ARMS/

THE END

New silk-finish enlargement, ivory gold-tooled frame



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Have you ever wished you could have your own favorite picture or snapshot enlarged like the pictures of Movie Stars? If you act now, you can make your wish come true. Just to get acquainted, we will make you a handsome, silk finish enlargement, mounted in a rich, gold-tooled frame with glassine front and standing easel back for only 19c each for the Picture and Frame, plus cost of mailing. Hundreds of thousands of people have already taken advantage of this generous offer, and to acquaint millions more like yourself with the famous studio portrait quality of our work, we now make this trial offer to you.

Think of it, only 19c each for a beautiful enlargement and frame you will cherish for years to come. Because of the sensational low price of this get-acquainted offer we must set a limit of 2 to a customer. So hurry—send one or two of your best photographs (either picture or negative) with the coupon below today. *Be sure to include the color of hair, eyes and clothing* for complete information on having your enlargement beautifully colored in life-like oils. SEND NO MONEY! Just mail coupon to us today. Include all information. Your original snapshot or negative will be returned.

RUSH YOUR ORDER! Your enlargement will be shipped direct from our Hollywood studios!

IMPORTANT!—DO NOT ENCLOSE ANY MONEY to Receive Your Beautiful New Silk Finish ENLARGEMENT and Ivory Gold-Tooled Frame

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Enclosed find.....snapshot or negative.
(Specify number, limit 2)

Please make.....Enlargement and Frame.
(Specify number, limit 2)

I will pay postman only 19c each for Enlargement and Frame, on arrival, plus mailing costs, on your 10-day money-back guarantee offer.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY..... (Zone) STATE.....

Fill out description below. Mark back of picture 1 and 2.

COLOR—Picture No. 1
Hair.....
Eyes.....
Clothing.....

COLOR—Picture No. 2
Hair.....
Eyes.....
Clothing.....

HERE'S PROOF....

(How This Amazing New Scientific Discovery Called *Comate* May Help You

Save Your Hair

If you are troubled by thinning hair, dandruff, dry itchy scalp, if you fear approaching baldness – here is GOOD NEWS!

We now make an offer so compelling that you cannot, in fairness to yourself, pass up the opportunity it presents.

This offer is limited to those who still have hair and are earnestly interested in enjoying thicker-stronger-healthier-looking HAIR AGAIN.

To YOU we offer the fruits of our search for a formula superior to every other method of attacking common hair and scalp problems. Our experience has convinced us that Comate is without equal in overcoming many conditions of the hair and scalp. We have, therefore, come to a decision – unprecedented, so far as we know, in this business – of taking all the risk ourselves.

YOU TAKE NO RISK—YOU GET DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK!

We believe the Comate Hair and Scalp Formula is the greatest aid in treating the hair and scalp that has ever been offered to those interested in avoiding baldness. We can and do promise that after 30 days' trial you must enjoy thicker-stronger-healthier-looking hair again – or we guarantee to refund not only the price you pay – but DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK!

You know, we could not make this offer unless Comate is all we say it is!

You want the finest growth of hair, the cleanest, the clearest and healthiest scalp. That is your birthright. Read the unsolicited testimonials, study our Insurance Policy and Guarantee. We take all the risk. You have the protection of – DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK – unless delighted.

ACT NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Nothing – not even Comate – can grow hair from dead follicles. So act now while there is still a chance to have thicker-stronger-healthier-looking hair again. Later may be *too late!* The price for a full 30 days' supply is only $5.00 (Fed. tax incl.) – less than the cost of a pack of cigarettes a day. Isn't *your* hair worth the best?

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PROOF!

Actual Experiences of Skeptical Men and Women

"I used to comb out a handful of hair at a time. Now I only get 4-6 on my comb. The terrible itching has stopped."
—L. H. M., Los Angeles, Cal.

"My hair has quit falling out and getting thin."
—D. W. G., c/o FPO., N. Y.

"My husband has tried many treatments and spent a great deal of money on his scalp. Nothing helped until he started using your formula."
—Mrs. R. LeB, Piqua, Ohio

"Used it twice and my hair has already stopped falling."
—R. H., Corona, Cal.

"Comate is successful in every way you mention. Used it only a few days and can see the big change in my scalp and hair."
—C. E. H., N. Richland, Wash.

"My hair was thin at the temples, and all over. Now it looks so much thicker, I can tell it."
—Miss C. T., San Angelo, Tex.

"I've used a good many different 'tonics.' But until I tried Comate, I had no results. Now I'm rid of dandruff, and itchy scalp. My hair looks thicker."
—G. E., Alberta, Canada

"My hair has improved it used to fall out by handfuls. Comate stopped it from falling out."
—D. M. H., Oklahoma City, Okla.

"Now my hair looks quite thick."
—F. J. K., Chicago, Ill.

"My hair had been coming out and breaking off for about 21 years and Comate has improved it so much."
—Mrs. J. E., Lisbon, Ga.

"No trouble with dandruff since I started using it."
—L. W. W., Galveston, Tex.

"It really has improved my hair in one week, and I know what the result will be in three more. I am so happy over it, I had to write!"
—Mrs. H. L., McComb, Miss.

These are a few of the unsolicited testimonials received every day from grateful men and women all over the country. Once you've tried Comate you'll rave about it, too!

HERE IS YOUR GUARANTEE

Policy of Insurance

Comate is warranted to be made of U.S.P. standard ingredients, scientifically and accurately compounded. You, the user, must be beneficiary of generally improved condition of hair and scalp—or we guarantee to refund DOUBLE YOUR MONEY upon return of bottle and unused portion.

SIGNED: *Comate Laboratories Inc.*

RUSH THIS NO-RISK COUPON NOW!

Comate Laboratories Inc., 132 W. 40th St., Dept. 92M, New York

Please rush my bottle (30 days' supply) of Comate hair and scalp formula in plain wrapper. I must be completely satisfied or you GUARANTEE refund of DOUBLE MY MONEY BACK upon return of bottle and unused portion.

☐ Enclosed find $5.00 (Cash, Check, Money Order. Send postpaid.)
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman $5.00 plus postal charges.

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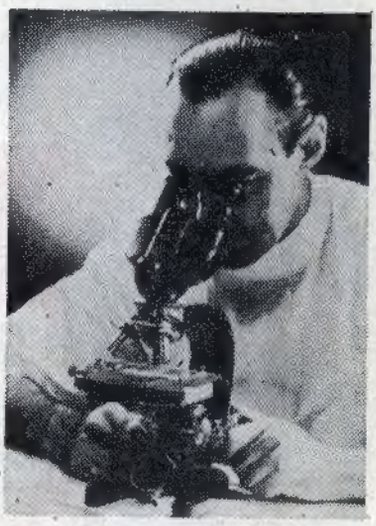
DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

ADVERTISEMENT

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT PIMPLES

Acne, Blackheads, and other externally caused Skin Blemishes



WHEN pimply skin is your problem, the first thing to get straight is that you *can* and *should* do something about it. To develop the attractiveness of your face is not mere vanity. It is an "open sesame" towards bringing the real YOU closer to other people and giving your personality the poise and confidence it needs. Your good qualities—intelligence, character, dignity—all go to naught... are completely cancelled out by a skin that "nobody loves to touch." Remember, the YOU that people see first is your face.

SKIN PROBLEMS DEMAND IMMEDIATE CARE

Medical statistics tell us that blemished skin usually occurs from adolescence on through adult life. The problem at the adolescent stage is serious enough to deserve attentive care as a family matter. In adulthood, when life's responsibilities are so much weightier, it is doubly important to exert great effort to eliminate these blemishes. And, there is no better time to get pimples under control than *now*.

DON'T ABUSE SKIN

The first instinctive reaction to pimples and blackheads is to squeeze them out with your fingers. A bit of experimentation along these lines soon provides convincing proof that this succeeds only in inflaming your skin and spreading the infection. Under no circumstances should pimples and blackheads ever be squeezed.

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MICROSCOPE SHOWS IMPORTANT BASIS FOR EXTERNALLY CAUSED PIMPLES AND BLACKHEADS

Let's take a look through the microscope to see what's behind those unsightly pimples. The high-powered lenses show your skin coated with a covering which originated from two sources—one, internally and the other, externally.

The internal substances on your skin include dead cells, residue from the sweat glands, and a high quantity of oil excreted by the sebaceous glands. A most important factor in skin disorders occurs when thousands of these tiny sebaceous glands discharge more oil than the skin can use for lubrication. Unless special care is given, the oil forms a heavy film which attracts foreign matter to your skin much as any oil mop picks up dust. These infectious external substances may be classified into three general groups:

1. Airborne materials such as dust, pollens, condensation products of smoke, vapors, etc.
2. Materials brought in contact with the skin, such as tiny fragments of clothing, bedding, cosmetics.
3. Micro-organisms such as bacteria and fungi.

See the difference between a healthy skin and a pimply skin in the microscopic reproductions below.

A.
Normal skin

B.
Sick, pimply skin

Diagram A shows a normal-size, smoothly functioning sebaceous gland. Diagram B pictures sick, pimply skin. Notice that the sebaceous gland is a swollen mass of trapped oil, waste and infectious bacteria.

TRY THIS SENSIBLE WAY

Two sensible aims to achieve in controlling this skin condition are: to clear the pores of clogging matter, and to inhibit the excessive oiliness of the skin. Toward these ends, Dornol Products' research makes available two formulas. One is to aid in thorough cleansing by highly detergent penetration which simplifies the removal of waste and foreign matter. The other is to discourage oiliness with clinically-proved ingredients, and to kill infectious bacteria often associated with externally caused pimples and blackheads.

BLEMISHES COVERED UP

To remove the distressing embarrassment of these skin blemishes, the second Dornol formula exerts a "cover-up" action on your broken out skin while the medication does its work. This, plus its pleasant odor, will spare you the mental distress which is associated with unsightly, malodorous, medicated preparations. Imagine! You can apply this Dornol formula to your skin by day and face the immediate present with greater confidence in your appearance, while secure in the knowledge that medication is acting to remove old blemishes and keep away new ones. What this "cover-up" action alone is worth in peace of mind is beyond calculation. No longer need prying eyes make you wince with humiliation and misery. Now because of this wonderful feature of the Dornol treatment, you can put your best foot forward ... at once!

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK

We know what the Dornol treatment has done for others, so we want you to try it at *our risk*. A few minutes a day invested in our treatment can yield more gratifying results than you ever dared hope for. This is what we say to you: If you are not delighted in every way by the improved condition and general appearance of your skin in just 10 days, simply return the unused portion and we will refund not only the price you paid—but DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK! Can anything be fairer than that? You have everything to gain... *and we take all the risk!*

How to get the Dornol Treatment immediately: Just send your name and address to DORNOL PRODUCTS, INC., Dept. 1912C, 4257 Katonah Avenue, New York 66, N. Y. Be sure to print clearly. By return mail we will ship the Dornol treatment to you in a plain package. When postman delivers the package, pay only $1.98 plus postage. Or, if you wish to save postal fee, send $2 now and we will pay postage. Which ever way you order, the DOUBLE REFUND GUARANTEE still prevails. Don't delay another minute, send for the Dornol Medicated Skin treatment with "cover-up" feature... *at once!* Sorry, no Canadian C.O.D.'s.

HAVE A SLIMMER, YOUTHFUL, FEMININE APPEARANCE INSTANTLY!

No other girdle or supporter belt has more hold in power! The Up-Lift Adjust-O-Belt is the newest, most comfortable girdle I ever had.

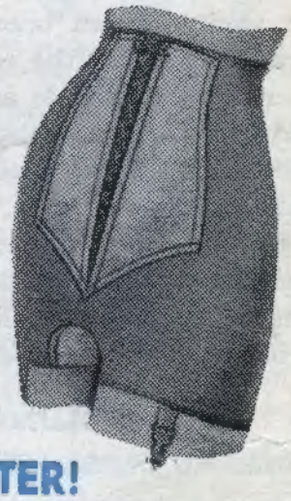
REDUCE

YOUR APPEARANCE! LOOK AND FEEL LIKE SIXTEEN AGAIN!

Don't look old before your time. Do as thousands of others do, wear a comfortable, new and improved UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT! The UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT with the amazing new *adjustable* front panel controls your figure the way *you* want it, with added support where *you need it most*. Simply adjust the laces and *PRESTO your mid section is reshaped*, your back is *braced* and you look and feel *younger!*

MORE UP-LIFT AND HOLD-IN POWER!

The UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT takes weight off tired feet and gives you a more alluring, more daringly feminine, curvaceous figure the instant you put it on. It gives you lovely curves just in the *right places*, with no unwanted bulges in the wrong ones. It whittles your waist line to *nothingness* no matter what shape you may now have. *It's easily adjusted—always comfortable!*



TEST THE **ADJUST-O-BELT** UP-LIFT PRINCIPLE WITH YOUR OWN HANDS!

Clasp your hands over your *abdomen*, press upwards and in gently, *but firmly*. You feel better don't you! That's just what the UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT does for you only the ADJUST-O-BELT does it better. *Mail Coupon and test it at home for 10 days FREE at our expense!*

APPEAR SLIMMER, AND FEEL BETTER!

You will look like and feel like this beautiful model in your new and improved Up-Lift Adjust-O-Belt.

The UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT lifts and flattens unsightly bulges, comfortably, quickly, firmly. It *readjusts* easily to changes in your figure, yet no laces touch your body. It gives instant *slenderizing figure control*. It fashionably shapes your figure to it's slimmest lines. *Like magic the UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT* obeys your every wish. *Pounds and inches* seem to disappear instantly from waist, hips and thighs. You can adjust it to your slimmed down figure as your figure changes. It gives the same fit and comfort you get from a made to order girdle costing 2 to 3 times the price. It washes like a dream. Style: Panty and regular. Colors nude and white. It's made of the finest stretch material used in any girdle with a pure satin front panel and made by the most skilled craftsmen. It's light in weight but powerfully strong.

It won't roll up, bulge or curl at the top. It gives extra-double support where you need it most. *No other girdle at any price can give you better support, can make you look better, feel better or appear slimmer.* Sizes 24 to 44 waist.

ONLY.....$3.98

Money - Back Guarantee With A 10-Day FREE TRIAL

If the UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT isn't better than any supporter you ever had, if *You* don't feel more comfortable, if you don't look and feel younger, if your shape isn't 100% IMPROVED, if you are not delighted with it, return it and your money will be refunded in full.

FREE: New amazing NYLON laces will be sent free with your order. Try them instead of your regular laces. You may keep them FREE even if you return the girdle.

SEND NO MONEY

ADJUST-O-BELT CO., Dept. 124
1025 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey

Rush your new and improved UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT for $3.98 in size and style checked. ☐ Regular, ☐ Panty
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postage plus handling.
☐ I enclose $3.98. You pay postage plus handling.
CHECK SIZE: ☐ Sm. (25-26); ☐ Med. (27-28); ☐ Lg. (29-30); ☐ XL (31-32); ☐ XXL (34-36); ☐ XXXL (38-40); ☐ XXXXL (42-44)

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ZONE____STATE_____

I understand if not delighted with the UP-LIET ADJUST-O-BELT I can return it in 10 days for full purchase price refund.

SENT ON APPROVAL